

Homophobic violence hits Paris?
Gay mayor Bertrand Delanoë stabbed at city hall, but expected to recover.
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It's a hoedown!
LGBT country-western dancers host charity event.
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All in the family
Filmmaker Arthur Dong on the 'Family Fundamentals.'
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BAY AREA REPORTER

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Serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1971

N-9 lube dead; N-9 condoms live on

by Ed Walsh

In a huge victory for activists and a testament to the power of public pressure, all lubricant manufacturers have now agreed to stop making lube with the spermicide nonoxonyl-9. The product, which has been shown to significantly increase the risk of HIV transmission, will become extinct once existing supplies are depleted.

The last manufacturer still making N-9 lube told the *Bay Area Reporter* last week that it will stop. Westridge Laboratories, the producer of the I-D Plus brand, joins the makers of Aqua Lube, ForPlay, KY, and Wet who have removed N-9 from their products.

Medical anthropologist and sexologist Dr. Clark Taylor praised the manufacturers for voluntarily stopping N-9 lube production. Taylor has crusaded against N-9 along with Global Campaign for Microbicides, a Washington, D.C.-based coalition of more than 85 scientists and public health advocacy groups. Taylor also had high praise for the *B.A.R.* in its recent series of



Dr. Clark Taylor

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Davis brings re-election bid to the LGBT center

by Cynthia Laird



Amid heavy security, Governor Gray Davis flashed a "thumbs up" as he used the LGBT Community Center's service entrance to attend a campaign fundraiser Monday.

Just hours after his first – and likely only – televised debate with his Republican challenger in Los Angeles, Governor Gray Davis made an appearance Monday, October 7 at San Francisco's LGBT Community Center where he schmoozed with about 175 supporters.

Outside the center, about 50 people representing several groups led a spirited protest against Davis. Several people were supporting Green Party gubernatorial candidate Peter Camejo over the centrist Democrat Davis. Other groups demonstrated against Davis's parole policies and a couple of people from San Francisco's Our Family Coalition handed out leaflets urging people to donate to their group, which serves LGBT families in the state.

Last week, Davis angered many in the LGBT community when he vetoed a bill that would have fought anti-gay discrimination in the foster care system. Davis also vetoed a bill that would have allowed nee-

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Duffy leads the pack in race for District 8 cash

by Matthew S. Bajko

In the District 8 supervisor race, Bevan Duffy has amassed the largest amount of campaign contributions, raising nearly

\$53,000 in his attempt to replace Mark Leno on the Board of Supervisors. Leno is expected to win a seat to the state Assembly in November.

The openly gay Duffy, a former aide to Mayor Willie Brown, has been able to out fund raise his opponents in the race even though he has limited his campaign contributions to \$100 from contributors who either live or work in the city. He has also opted not to accept any city funds for his campaign.

"I feel great," said Duffy, who said he expected his fundraising to be a challenge because of the self-imposed limitations. "I think [people] like the message that I am not accepting contributions over \$100. They know it is a high standard for me to work hard and get the broadest amount of people to support me."

Out lesbian Eileen Hansen, a nonprofit consultant and AIDS policy expert, has pulled in more than \$37,000 for her bid to take the seat she lost to Leno in 2000 by less than 800 votes. While Hansen is eligible for up to almost \$44,000 in public financing, to date she has applied for \$5,000 in matching funds toward her campaign.

"We feel great. We are entering the last leg of our fundraising efforts and have full confidence that we will, with support of public financing, achieve the voluntary campaign limit of \$75,000 by the end of this month," Hansen said. "We are in great shape and feel terrific."

Tom Radulovich, an openly gay BART board member who is endorsed by Leno to be his successor, has pulled in only \$29,000 in contributions. But with \$26,500 in matching funds from the city, he nearly doubled his war chest and eked out a small lead over Duffy's total.

James Green, a city paramedic and firefighter, has collected more than \$10,000 from supporters, while openly gay Shawn O'Hearn, an HIV prevention administrator at City College, reported \$3,658 in contributions. Starchild, a gay escort and exotic dancer, did not file a report on contributions to his campaign.

The campaigns had to file their contribution figures to the city's Ethics Commission by 5 p.m. Monday, October 7. The contribution totals are from January through September 30 of this year.

Duffy has also outspent his opponents so far in the race, reporting \$26,253 in expenses. Hansen has spent \$23,697 on her campaign and Radulovich reported spending \$9,286 on his effort to represent the district.

Tapping into a network of friends and former colleagues at City Hall, Duffy has received contributions from a host of high-ranking officials, including Mayor Brown; assistant district attorney Kimberly Guilfoyle Newsom; public health director Mitch Katz; Public Defender Kimiko Cruz-Burton; city Treasurer Susan Leal; former Supervisor Leslie Katz; city Public Utilities Commission Director Pat Martel; and Kandace Bender, spokeswoman for the airport and close ally to Mayor Brown.

Duffy also has received support from a
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Bevan Duffy



Tom Radulovich



Eileen Hansen

Castro fun

These people were just two of the estimated 60,000 to 70,000 who attended the 29th annual Castro Street Fair Sunday, October 6. Authorities reported no problems at the event.



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Fatal shooting in Castro

by Ed Walsh

A knife-wielding man muttering "fags" and "homosexuals" was shot and killed by police outside a popular Castro District restaurant on Tuesday night, October 8.

The incident began when a man grabbed two large knives from the kitchen of the Bagdad Cafe on Market Street. He simulated stabbing a waiter with the knives while the waiter was pouring coffee for a customer, according to San Francisco Patrol Special Police Officer Jane Warner. The man then stood outside, in front of the restaurant.

Witnesses told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the middle-aged man was smiling, talking to him-

self, and holding the two knives.

"I heard him say something about fags and homosexuals, using those words," said Jean Michel Huart, a tourist from Belgium.

Police were called and the first officers arrived about 10:20 p.m.

Huart and another witness told the *B.A.R.* two very different stories about what happened next.

Huart said the police overreacted by shooting the man because Huart said the man always had the knives tucked in his arms and wasn't directly threatening the officers or anyone else.

"I am more in shock over police shooting the man than what the man was doing with the knives," said Huart. "The police officer was not in danger. This guy was not threatening. He was just a

nut case."

But another witness, Kevin Jones, told the *B.A.R.* that police were absolutely right for shooting the man. Jones said an officer told the man to drop the knives but he uncrossed his arms, with a knife in each hand, and lunged at the officer.

"The cop was one step away from being stabbed by two knives," said Jones.

Jones said that at first he thought the man might have been joking because he was smiling the entire time while he was holding the knives.

Witnesses say police shot the man twice. Two windows were broken in apartments across the street from the cafe after the bullets apparently ricocheted after striking the man. ▼

Parker House hosts AEF, BCEF benefit

by Zak Szymanski

The second weekend in October brings to mind great San Francisco weather, which is why the owners of the Parker Guest House—the Castro's historic inn at 520 Church Street—chose the date for its annual Fall Benefit Luncheon, held this year on Saturday, October 12, from 1-5 p.m. in the guest house's newly-expanded outdoor gardens.

The luncheon benefits the AIDS Emergency Fund and its sister nonprofit, the Breast Cancer

Emergency Fund. Both grant-making organizations assist lower-income people living with advanced illness by providing emergency financial aid. Sponsored by guest house partners and co-owners Bob O'Halloran and Bill Boeddiker, and hosted by Supervisor Mark Leno and the fabulous Donna Sachet, the event features a sit-down lunch supplied by 2223 Restaurant; soft drinks; wine and beer; live music by the Sarah Knutson Quartet; and a raffle with thousands of dollars in prizes, including a weekend trip to Washington, D.C.

Tickets to the luncheon are \$75 per person, and 100 percent of the proceeds goes directly to AEF and BCEF. This is the fifth annual benefit at the Parker House; previous events combined have raised a total of about \$440,000 for AEF and BCEF. Organizers expect about 150 people in attendance this year, and hope to raise an additional \$15,000 to \$20,000 for the organizations.

For tickets to the luncheon, or for more information, call the Parker Guest House at (415) 621-3222 or visit www.parkerguesthouse.com. ▼

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State high court hears gay prisoner case

by Ed Walsh

Supporters of gay prisoner Robert Rosenkrantz are holding their collective breath.

The California Supreme Court heard oral arguments this week on whether to affirm lower court rulings that ordered Rosenkrantz's parole. The high court has 90 days to issue its written ruling. If the seven-justice panel agrees with the lower courts, Rosenkrantz could be freed immediately.

The high court didn't indicate how it would likely rule on the case. The justices asked critical questions of both Rosenkrantz's attorney, Don Specter, and Robert Wilson, an attorney for the California Attorney General's office.

Wilson argued that Governor Gray Davis acted within the law and within his powers when he blocked Rosenkrantz's parole. Specter countered that Davis, in effect, has a blanket policy against parole. Specter also argued that because the law giving Davis the right to block paroles was enacted after Rosenkrantz was convicted, it is unconstitutional for the law to retroactively apply to him.

The hearing in downtown Fresno was attended by a small group of protesters who blasted the governor for his hard line on parole.

"[Former Governor Pete] Wilson looks like a liberal compared with Davis," said one of the pro-

testers, Judy Greenspan, of California Prison Focus.

Davis has only approved parole for two convicted murderers since he took office. In both cases, those prisoners were women who killed their abusive partners.

Greenspan told reporters that Rosenkrantz's record as a model prisoner and pointed out that he was the victim of a hate crime, one of the mitigating factors Rosenkrantz's jury considered in reaching its verdict of second-degree, rather than first-degree murder.

In 1985, Rosenkrantz shot and killed a former schoolmate, Steve Redman, after Redman taunted him for being gay and attacked him at a party on the night of his high school graduation. Redman later outed Rosenkrantz to his father. A week after the attack, Rosenkrantz shot and killed Redman after a confrontation outside Redman's home in Calabasas. Rosenkrantz said he demanded Redman take back the outing and opened fire after Redman refused and again taunted him for being gay.

Two Superior Court judges and two appeals court panels have ruled that Rosenkrantz has been unfairly denied parole by Davis, who once vowed to block the parole of all convicted killers.

Much of the 70-minute hearing involved a discussion of case law and U.S. Supreme Court rulings and how they apply to the rights of prisoners to determine

sentences and parole.

"For the past 17 years I have wondered what my life would have been like without the grief that I experience every moment of every day for the loss suffered by the Redmans and for the incarceration of my son for murder," said his mother, Barbara Rosenkrantz, after the hearing. "In the last 17 years, Robert has, with great perseverance, made peace with our family and we with him and has painstakingly developed an understanding of the circumstances that has led to his crime."

Rosenkrantz's father, Herbert Rosenkrantz, spoke after his wife: "On the tragic day over 17 years ago, my first son Robert came to me for love and support. He'd been attacked and he'd been beaten. His nose was broken. He was burned by a stun gun. But what was worse, and I didn't understand as his father, is that he had been cruelly humiliated and outed as a homosexual. And I have to say what little self-esteem he had when he came to me, it was all gone by the time he left me. I didn't understand what it meant to him. My immediate reaction was to reject my son. A rejection that absolutely shattered Robert and set into motion like a big boulder going down a mountain, a chain of events that ended up in the death of Steven Redman. I regretted my failure to support Robert every day of my life." ▼



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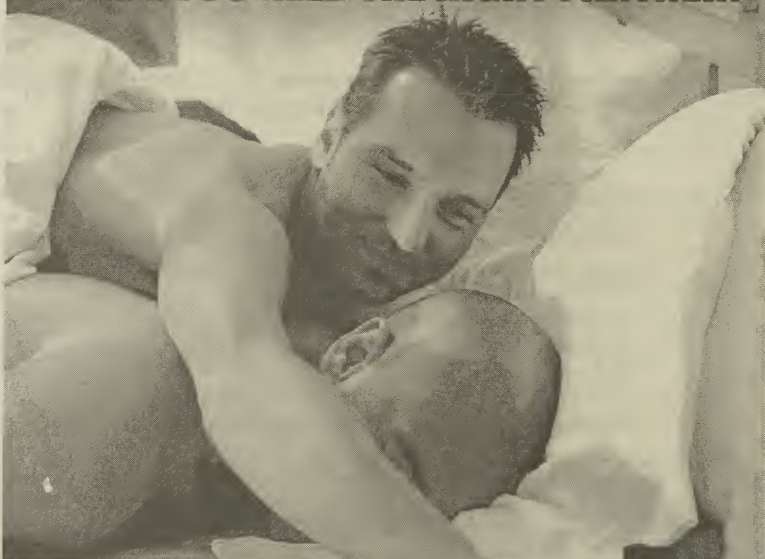
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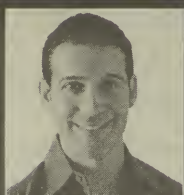
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Halloween plans nixed

by Joe Dignan

The organizers of a proposal to produce entertainment in the Castro on Halloween this year have abandoned their plans in the face of opposition from a merchants' group and a demand from the city's permit bureaucracy that they take complete responsibility for one of the city's largest, but illegal, spontaneous street events.

The San Francisco Late Night Coalition had joined with Noble Beast Productions, producer of Pride's ReUnion circuit party, with the hope of producing three stages of entertainment, with music for dancing, and a costume show.

John Wood of the SFLNC said he had hoped that the entertainment would draw the crowd, which police have estimated to be as large as 500,000 in previous years, down Market Street and relieve the crush on Castro Street.

Wood also said that he hoped it would provide revelers with something to do besides drink. "If we do nothing," Wood said, "Halloween will remain nothing but a drinking party. We wanted to give people something fun to do."

The event last year, according to Deputy Police Chief Greg Suhr, was the most violent on record. About 180 police also attended the party. They marched down Market Street in riot gear at 2 a.m. to disburse the crowd. Their overtime bill came to about \$78,000, according to the SFPD. The city also paid for an additional 33 Department of Parking and Traffic officers and \$15,000 for civilian security guards to augment the police presence.

"I have no problem with things as they were last year," said Patrick Batt, president of the Merchants of Upper Market and Castro. Batt had opposed the group's plans at a MUMC meeting on October 3 where 12 of the 15 MUMC members present voted not to support

the proposal, which member David Bach called "too little - too late."

One of the organizers, Don Spradlin of Noble Beast, said that he didn't think the MUMC decision, with only 15 of the 175 members voting, was representative of the merchants' wishes. "I don't know what defines a quorum, but with such a small percentage of the members there, it would seem to be less than a consensus."

Teddy Witherington, executive director of San Francisco's Pride Committee, cautioned that "the big drawback for anyone getting involved in Halloween is a way that they are responsible is that they become embroiled in the fishpond politics of the Castro."

According to Wood, the other factor that killed the entertainment plans was that the city insisted the group take out permits for all the street closures required by the event. That would have

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AIDS support group honors kindness

by Matthew S. Bajko

The Most Holy Redeemer AIDS Support Group will host its annual In-Kindness Awards dinner on Sunday, October 13 to honor those individuals who have made outstanding contributions to those living with HIV and AIDS.

Begun by parishioners of the Catholic Church in the heart of the

Castro, the AIDS Support Group is now in its 18th year. For almost two decades it has provided practical, emotional, and spiritual support to people with HIV-related diseases as well as their loved ones.

The support group's honorees this year are Father Zachary Shore, who was reassigned to another parish earlier this year and has supported the AIDS group over the last 12 years; Brother

George Cherrie, who has worked with AIDS clients for the last 10 years; and the Gilead biopharmaceutical company for its accomplishments in addressing HIV, hepatitis B, and Karposi's sarcoma.

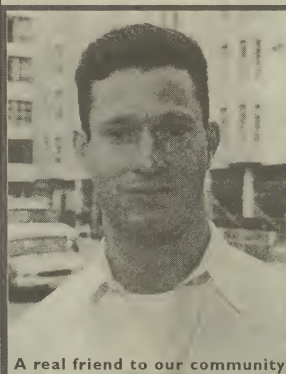
The dinner will take begin at 6 p.m. at the Sir Francis Drake Hotel at 450 Powell Street. Tickets cost \$135 per person and can be purchased by calling (415) 863-1581. ▼

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LYRIC names exec. director

by Zak Szymanski

When the board of Laverder Youth Recreation and Information Center launched a nationwide search for a new executive director almost five months ago, it came to the unsurprising conclusion that the best LGBTQ talent is here in the Bay Area.

Kar Yin Tham, 28, took LYRIC's top post on September 23 at a salary of \$70,000 per year. The San Francisco self-described activist, queer/bi dyke, Malaysian immigrant, writer, and instigator plans to use her varied experiences, she said, to work with the LYRIC board and shape the city's model queer youth organization into more of a transformative, community-driven environment.

"My initial ideas are around building community, within the organization but also outside LYRIC: with youth who don't come here, with other agencies, and with our Castro neighbors,"

Tham told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "I also want to take LYRIC participants to the next step, and empower them all to not only find personal healing but to make a change for their community."

Aware of past tensions between some LYRIC participants – particularly around the queer youth shelter debates – and longtime Castro residents, Tham would also like to explore ways to introduce adult role models to LYRIC kids without compromising the organization's mission of developing peer-led programs.

And because funding is always an issue for nonprofits, especially recently, Tham plans to expand LYRIC's individual donor base and look at how community-based groups can support one another.

In a statement released by LYRIC, board member Saun-Troy Trotter said LYRIC was excited about Tham's "breadth of experience in queer and people of color



LYRIC's Kar Yin Tham

communities" and that the organization trusts that "the vision she holds will strengthen LYRIC's capacity to empower youth to build communities that value and celebrate all people."

Tham has served as a client advocate and peer counselor at Community United Against Violence, was the director of the Queer Youth Training Collaborative, and was a volunteer organizer for Asian & Pacific Islander Queer Women & Transgender Coalition. She received CUAV's Phoenix Award in 1999 for leadership and commitment to social

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SLDN hosting picnic Sunday

by Cynthia Laird

This weekend marks the return of Fleet Week in San Francisco, and it also means that the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network will be hosting its fifth annual "Red, White, and Blue Angels Picnic" on Treasure Island this Sunday, October 13.

The event, which also features an unobstructed view of the Blue Angels fly-over show, will support SLDN's efforts to provide free legal counsel to service members impacted by the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy and to work to repeal that policy.

"Now, more than ever, our nation's freedoms depend on the service of dedicated, patriotic Americans," said Rene Puliaiti, one of the event co-chairs. "No American should be turned away from military service simply because of his or her sexual orientation."

The keynote speaker for the picnic will be retired Navy man Keith Meinhold, who acknowledged his sexual orientation on national television in May 1992, after which Navy officials initiated discharge proceedings against him. In October 1992, Meinhold filed suit in federal court for an injunction to return him to service, a request the court granted one month later. That court decision was upheld on appeal to the Ninth Circuit, which ruled that the Navy could not move forward with its planned discharge of Meinhold. He continued to serve as an openly gay man until his retirement in 1996.

Sunday's picnic luncheon will also feature C. Dixon Osburn, SLDN's executive director, and a performance by the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band. The event runs from noon-3 p.m. Tickets start at \$75 and can be purchased online at www.sldn.org. ▼

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OPEN FORUM

Plan now for next Halloween

It's too late this year for changes to the unofficial Halloween celebration in the Castro. For years, many merchants in the gay mecca have been critical of the event, for which no permit is secured and no one is in charge. While in the beginning the crowd was largely LGBT-identified, over the years that has changed too. Now, according to leaders of the Merchants of Upper Market and Castro, it's mostly straight people coming to look at the "freaks"; too much alcohol is sold; there is no organized entertainment; and the neighborhood is transformed into a large drunk tank for the night.

Understandably, business owners — particularly those that don't stand to profit from the alcohol sales — have taken a "grin and bear it" approach to the event. The effort to move the crowd out of the Castro over the last several years with a city-sponsored party in Civic Center has been a dismal failure. This year there won't even be a Civic Center celebration.

Members of the San Francisco Late Night Coalition thought they had a solution for this year when they had proposed a few entertainment stages and a costume contest. The reasoning makes sense: give the folks who show up something to do besides drink. Unfortunately, the late night organizers were stymied by the city bureaucracy. They would have had to assume all liability for the entire event and take out permits for all the street closures in order to have their stages. Unable, on such short notice, to produce a complete plan dealing with issues such as clean-up and disabled access for the hundreds of thousands of people expected to converge on the neighborhood, the late night group pulled out.

And there's the rub: no one wants to take responsibility for Halloween by obtaining the permits, yet the police, knowing that thousands of people will show up, close the streets anyway, resulting in the unofficial nature of the party.

So it looks as though this year brings more of the same to the Castro.

But it's not too late to start planning now for next Halloween. If merchants and entertainment advocates have 12 months to hash it out, perhaps a sensible plan can be implemented next year. After all, as one of our letter writers points out this week: 1) Castro Street is queer; and 2) Halloween is

the ultimate queer holiday. In other words, Halloween is going to be celebrated in the Castro no matter what; we might as well take a proactive stance in an effort to minimize the impact.

While it is true that many — perhaps even a majority — of the celebrants who come to the Castro on Halloween are straight, there are lots of LGBT folks that come to party as well, especially those from the suburbs. Queer kids, young people, and adults who may not be out can dress up as they choose, without fear of being hassled. Halloween is celebrated too by the transgender community.

No one says anything about a man dressed as a woman or vice versa on October 31. For one night, everyone can be who they want, bending gender lines, and having a good time. That's why Halloween has been an important day for the LGBT community.

Maybe the San Francisco Late Night Coalition can get some advice from the Sis-

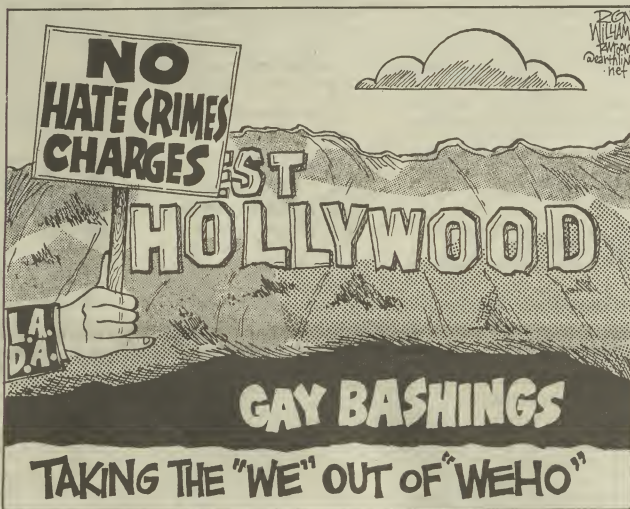
ters of Perpetual Indulgence, which used to produce a stage in the early 1990s, or the Pride Committee, which puts on one of the largest parades and festivals in the world.

More importantly, however, the city needs to step up to the plate. Whomever is elected supervisor in District 8, which includes the Castro, should start early next year convening meetings on Halloween so that there is sufficient time to plan. Moreover, the city's new Entertainment Commission should take up the issue. While the commission was approved earlier this year, Proposition F on the November 5 ballot refines the way the multi-agency committee oversees the city's

nightlife. Among other duties, the commission is supposed to streamline the permit process. The police are supposed to be involved, as well as other city agencies and local residents. If there was ever a case for revamping the city's permit process, the Castro Halloween celebration is a prime example. ▼



Editorial



Why LGBTs should support Daly

by Mark Dunlop

A moderate friend asked me why I support Chris Daly for re-election in District 6. Although I do not see this as a moderate versus progressive issue but more as a leadership versus lack of leadership issue, I gave much thought to this. As a long-term survivor of AIDS and as a member of San Francisco LGBT community since the time of Harvey Milk, I have seen many "leaders" come and go. I have seen problems solved by courageous leadership and too many left unsolved by lack of political will. Daly is one of the few gifted unique individuals who I believe can solve the many vexing problems of this city.

He has displayed a sense of courage we have not seen from many elected leaders of late. Unafraid to stand up to the most powerful interests, he is unconcerned with the conservative media in San Francisco will portray him. He has stood up for what he believes, and most importantly for what he believes is for the good of his constituents. More than once he has been asked to cool his rhetoric and compromise. But where would we as a LGBT community be if our leaders compromised on the path to equality?

District 6 has a substantial LGBT population and encompasses some of the most disadvantaged areas of San Francisco; the Tenderloin, South of Market, and North Mission. The vast majority of the population is below San Francisco's median income. District 6 has one of the highest concentration of people living with HIV/AIDS and disabled persons in San Francisco. It is

an overwhelmingly renters' district. Most of Daly's opponents support a proposition that would decrease rental units and therefore increase rents. Daly understands his district. He will not sacrifice the many to satisfy the few development and gentrification interests that are trying hard to defeat him. Developers have the strongest voice possible, they have money, they have lobbyists, and they don't need another supervisor in their pocket. The residents of District 6 need Daly to be their voice. He has proven time and time again to be an unflinching voice for his district's residents.

As a redevelopment commissioner, I can personally attest to Supervisor Daly's advocacy for his district. He has appeared often in defense of his district's interests.

No other supervisor has been such a forceful advocate. When Mayor Brown forced a wasteful and expensive development project in District 6 down the throats of the Redevelopment Commission, mocking the independence of the entire commission system, Daly held an extremely contentious public hearing supporting the ideals of independent public commissions. Although he took some hits for inviting public testimony on this divisive issue, he withstood the pressure to sweep this affair under the rug and the public was heard and served.

He understands most of our homeless are victims of multiple circumstances beyond their ability to manage. He supports a compassionate solution to homelessness and yes appropriate enforcement of quality of life

protections. His votes on the board bear this out. But he is against knee-jerk non-solutions to further political ambitions.

Mayor Brown recently called the San Francisco voters "ass backwards" in electing his "enemies" to the Board of Supervisors. Daly is not the mayor's enemy. He serves both the mayor and the citizens of San Francisco well by being an honest voice willing to take the heat and to stand up for what's right. For the Board of Supervisors to be filled with nothing but handpicked supporters of Mayor Brown would be a mistake. Two years ago the voters acknowledged that they wanted an independent board to compliment our strong mayor. That is appropriate. That is the checks and balances that make democracy work.

Daly has taken some criticism for being an unflinching advocate for his constituents. He speaks his heart and mind. An elected official who is not a cynical deal-maker and one who expresses real concern for the electorate offends some people. The history of the queer movement would be much different if we were afraid to speak our hearts and minds. If our leaders had cut deals rather than stood firm on principles. The people of District 6 deserve no less. I support Chris Daly for re-election. Not only has he earned it, but our city needs him. ▼

Mark Dunlop is a commissioner on the San Francisco Redevelopment Commission.



Guest Opinion

LETTERS

Supports Halloween entertainment

As a resident of 17th Street (at Sanchez), I support the proposal to return entertainment to the Castro Halloween celebration ["Changes proposed for Castro Halloween," September 26].

Last year's event was the most disorderly in memory. Compared to previous years, there was almost nothing to do. The artists who have performed from their apartment at Noe and Market for many years had their performance forcibly shut down by the police. Small sound systems that had previously been allowed were prohibited.

It is basic common sense that giving revelers creative diversions will provide a focus to the celebration and reduce acting out. With nothing to do, drinking becomes the primary activity, which is the cause of most of the problems. The celebration needs some music and dancing.

So yes, please bring back creativity to Castro Halloween. Otherwise, it is just a drinking party. Is that what we want?

Jason Penwell
San Francisco

Take back Halloween

After experiencing a few years of trying to "trick" the straight people out of the Castro on Halloween night by having money-losing events in the Civic Center, I believe it's time to take back the Castro and have an organized event that will be safer for the LGBT community and benefit nonprofits.

As a resident of District 8, I understand the concerns of merchants and residents who don't want the event in our neighborhood. But we have learned that people do come to the Castro by the hundreds of thousands, whether we want them or not, and it's time to have an event that is creative, fun, entertaining, and safer for the community by having it properly organized and managed. Let's take back Halloween night in the Castro and make it a world class event that is uniquely queer and uniquely San Francisco.

Calvin Gipson
San Francisco

The ultimate queer holiday

Just weeks after the Loma Prieta earthquake, on Halloween night 1989, I gathered six fellow Sisters with buckets and we collected \$6,000 for earthquake relief charities in four hours, at one entrance to Castro Street. Subsequently, donation collections have become indispensable elements of many queer celebrations, except Castro Halloween.

Successfully transforming a 10-year annual financial drain into a \$100,000 charity event was not what ended Castro Halloween as an "organized" event. What ended the involvement of most organizations was ignorance, denial, profiteering, and homophobia by neighborhood merchants who lobbied City Hall, ferociously opposing any semblance of "organization" at the event. During 1990-1994, Castro merchants blamed our "organized" entertainment for the event's growing size. At the same time, Castro merchants were selling barrels of alcohol directly on Castro's sidewalks every year, compounding the violence, but reaping huge profits. After four years of innumerable merchant meetings, we failed to convey the obvious and enduring facts that 1) Castro Street is queer, and 2) Halloween is the ultimate queer holiday. Tens of thousands of people will descend on this neighborhood each year as long as these two truths exist.

These same merchants now realize that the "organized" entertainment we provided during those years gave focus to chaos and enabled nonprofit charities to benefit enormously. Castro Halloween was destined to grow, organized or not. It will continue to do so because of the intrinsic nature of both Castro Street and Halloween. Had every merchant meeting agenda during those four years included the requisite viewing of the movie *Clueless*, a modicum of reality might have prevailed.

Sister Vicious Power Hungry Bitch
San Francisco

Bums Not Bombs

This letter is to announce the formation of a dynamic new political action group, Bums Not Bombs. Bums Not Bombs has been formed in order to advocate on behalf of drug dealers, junkies, criminals, and street people. The organization's first order of business is to endorse Eileen Hansen for District 8 supervisor.

Like her esteemed political allies, Tom Ammiano and Chris Daly, Ms. Hansen understands and appreciates the fact that law-abiding taxpayers, particularly homeowners and well-paid professionals, are enemies of the people and that bums have an unrestricted constitutional right to break the law and trash both public and private property.

District 8, and in particular the Castro, needs more crime, more human excrement and vomit on its sidewalks and streets, more winos and crack heads sleeping in doorways and hassling citizens, and, most of all,

more used hypodermic needles and other contraband littering its parks and streets. Support anarchy in San Francisco. Vote for Eileen Hansen.

John M. Farrell
San Francisco

Duffy is hard-working

As a resident and business owner for over 30 years in the Castro neighborhood, I enthusiastically support the election of Bevan Duffy for supervisor in District 8. Duffy is a good, honest, hard-working man and will serve the district well.

James Robbie Robinson
San Francisco

Radulovich stood out at debate

I've been a resident of the city for nearly five years, the last three in the Castro. I've also been without a full-time job for the past six months, giving me more time than ever to spend in my neighborhood. I've also had the chance to observe much and talk with many of my friends and neighbors. We all agree that these are tough times.

District 8, and indeed all of San Francisco, faces many challenges. Some of these are economic concerns like the job market, the tourism industry and returning the city to a balanced budget. Other considerations come under the realm of quality of life, such as public transportation, the homeless crisis, and the cleanliness of the streets.

Recently I attended a debate among the six registered candidates for District 8 supervisor at the LGBT Community Center. While all the candidates possess various talents and a strong desire to serve, only one stood out as the best choice for our neighborhood. Tom Radulovich brings a record of results and effective leadership, along with a clear vision for District 8, and indeed the entire city.

He offered no sugary feel-good platitudes, nor wildly unrealistic promises to try and please everybody, as did the other five contenders. Instead, Radulovich shared his ideas and viewpoints on a variety of topics affecting District 8 and San Francisco. The issues included homelessness, housing, retail business and many other topics. The common thread in Radulovich's vision comes from a remarkable combination of creative thinking and pragmatic planning.

We have indeed been fortunate to have a supervisor of the caliber of Mark Leno for the past four years. While I'm excited to have him represent us in Sacramento, I want to also be sure that the good work he began continues. The fact that Radulovich carries Leno's endorsement makes me all the more certain he will be a standout on the Board of Supervisors. Radulovich embodies the ideal choice for District 8 voters - effective, smart, and with a proven track record of solving tough problems.

Brian T. Armbrust
San Francisco

Look at Hansen's choices

Eileen Hansen suggests that voters in District 8 should vote for her because she is a woman and there is currently only one woman on the Board of Supervisors. She fails to mention that there is only one woman on the Board of Supervisors because she supported male candidates running against women candidates in nearly every supervisor race in 2000:

In District 1, she supported a white man over a woman of color. The man won.

In District 3, she supported a white man over three women, two of whom were women of color. The man won.

In District 5, she supported a man over a woman of color. The man won.

In District 9, she supported a white man over three women, two of whom were women of color. The man won.

In District 11, she supported a man over three women. The man won.

In District 6, she supported Chris Daly, over Beryl Magilavy, a progressive woman. Daly won.

For Hansen, I guess it boils down to: "Do as I say, not as I do."

Liz Pallatto
San Francisco

Radulovich's experience

I believe most voters in District 8 are of the opinion that they have been well represented by Supervisor Mark Leno. Leno will be representing us in the Assembly next year and has endorsed BART Director Tom Radulovich to be the next District 8 supervisor. Radulovich will bring the same type of independent, progressive, and effective leadership to the Board of Supervisors that we have come to expect under Leno.

We need a supervisor with actual hands-on experience at making our neighborhoods more livable. With more than six years experience as an elected official (representing 350,000 San Franciscans),

next page ►

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Mailstrom

◀ previous page

Radulovich has demonstrated he has the leadership skills to be an effective supervisor. At BART, he worked to create a planning department to work with the communities around BART stations in order to meet the needs of the neighborhoods. In District 8, Radulovich is currently working with the Glen Park Association and the Glen Park Merchant's Association to create a community plan around the Glen Park BART station.

Through his work at BART, Radulovich has become known as an expert on transit issues. He is a member of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce's Transportation Committee. He was involved in drafting the successful Muni reform initiative. In fact, Rescue Muni (San Francisco's independent transit riders' association) recently endorsed Radulovich as its pick to be the next District 8 supervisor.

In addition to his work as an elected official, Radulovich is a well-known environmentalist. He has served on the board of directors of the San Francisco League of Conservation Voters for almost 10 years. He also works closely with and has been endorsed by the Sierra Club. Numerous environmentalists have also endorsed him.

If elected supervisor for District 8, I believe he would continue his work as a pro-neighborhood, pro-transit, and pro-environment leader. Radulovich is an experienced, independent, and progressive Democrat who will fight to make our city a better place to live. I encourage you to vote for Tom Radulovich for District 8 supervisor on November 5.

James Garnett
San Francisco

No on 'Pork' C

If James Haas's contention [Mailstrom, October 3] that "the Veterans Building needs to be closed should the bond issue (Proposition C) not succeed," is to be taken seriously, then both the Health Department (101 Grove) and the Hall of Justice (850 Bryant) should be closed immediately because they are both rated at the same Seismic Level 3 as the Veterans Building. Unlike Mr. Haas, I am a licensed civil engineer, qualified to make such determinations, while Mr. Haas is merely prating the rhetoric of the War Memorial Board of Trustees.

Mr. Haas says both City Hall and the Veterans Building sustained the same damage in 1989 because they were both designed by the same architect. This is disingenuous. While the buildings do have similar structural systems, the Veterans Building suffered no significant structural damage in the Loma Prieta earthquake (as stated by the city's own report), while City Hall did. Moreover, any reasonable person standing on the corner of Van Ness and McAllister can see that the difference in size (mass and height) between the two buildings would lead one to expect greatly differing levels in damage.

Does anyone seriously believe that Mayor Brown would have spent the first two years of his "reign" in a building that was seismically unsafe? Would the Board of Supervisors have chosen to function almost three years in a dangerous building?

Yes, the Veterans Building needs seismic strengthening to bring it up to current standards, but not \$122,755,000 worth. Rather, \$75,000,000 would be quite adequate, based on the city's 1991 estimate of \$40,940,000, allowing for inflation. The \$40,940,000 allocated to upgrade the Veterans Building in the 1991 Public Buildings bond measure was instead spent on the Opera House. Since the work was not done, additional approved FEMA funds were withdrawn by the federal government.

And now, as Mr. Haas stated, "Tom Horn has prepared a plan to deal with the problem." Right. He is going to let the taxpayers pay for it, again. Mr. Horn has made no effort to raise funds for the work from other sources. Please vote no on "Pork" C. Make them come up with an honest, reasonable plan.

Paul Cox, C.E.
American Veterans Coalition,
Commander, American Legion Post 315

Homeless people are human

I am disgusted and offended by Tim Hogan's letter in which he refers to homeless people as "nonhumans" [Mailstrom, October 3]. Of course, I've known for quite some time that this is a popular sentiment, but to actually see it in print makes my stomach turn.

It may come as a shock to Mr. Hogan and many others that homeless people do, in fact, read the newspaper, have the mental capacity for critical thinking, and experience emotions. In other words, we are human.

I'm sick and tired of hearing about how homeless people are all drunks and drug addicts. For every drunk or strung-out homeless person you see, there are others, like myself, that you don't see - the sober, the clean, the "regular" people who just happen to lack permanent housing. I'm homeless, I've never had a

substance abuse problem, and I've never spent a single dime of my general assistance money on drugs or alcohol.

The faith that the upper classes have placed in Proposition N is laughable. If any of you who have been seduced by Gavin Newsom's charms and false promises took the time to look at the statistics and employ some basic common sense extrapolation, you'd see Proposition N for the worthless piece of legislation it really is. The most glaringly obvious problem with Proposition N is that it only affects about 2,700 out of an estimated 15,000 homeless people.

Those 12,000 or so who are not on general assistance will not be affected by this legislation at all. For the vast majority of homeless San Franciscans, absolutely nothing will change.

And for the minority who are on GA, life will change dramatically for the worse. I'd like to see any of you try to save for an apartment with only \$59 a month. It's hard enough with the \$395 I currently receive. And for those who do have substance abuse problems, you think they're going to just stop using drugs because they have less money? Highly doubtful. A more likely scenario is that they will resort to more drastic, violent, illegal means of obtaining money.

This means that if Proposition N passes, you can all look forward to increased panhandling, prostitution, and mugging. Everything that Newsom has promised you would get better will get much worse. There are more logical solutions to the homeless problem. Please look into these alternatives before letting yourself be fooled by Newsom's deceitful campaign.

Cowen Conaghan
San Francisco

Here's to HOPE

Renters voting their own self-interest should vote for Proposition R (the Home Ownership Program for Everyone initiative) in November. For more than one reason.

The most talked-about "good for renters" feature of Proposition R is that it gives them a chance to buy the units they live in, at a below-market affordable price, if the landlord wants to sell. That's all true. But another important reason renters should vote for Proposition R has to do with what may happen if it doesn't pass.

If Proposition R doesn't pass, an unprecedented wave of Ellis Act evictions (where every tenant in the building is evicted) is likely. Here's why: until recently, the only available way for mom and pop landlords to realize market value for their buildings was to sell units to first-time buyers as tenancies-in-common. Jake McGoldrick's recent (and misguided) legislation restricting TICs was recently upheld by the courts - except for buildings where all tenants have been Ellis-ized. So the perverse effect of McGoldrick's law is that to sell any units as TICs, owners now must evict everyone in their building under the Ellis Act.

That's where Proposition R provides some HOPE. Proposition R gives owners an alternative to Ellis evictions, by letting them sell some units, while evicting nobody. Proposition R actually discourages Ellis evictions in two ways: first, you can't do a Proposition R conversion if the unit has been Ellis-ized in the past. Second, once you've done a HOPE conversion of your building, Ellis Act evictions are no longer permitted, because the tenants have leases from the landlord.

Proposition R gives renters both an opportunity to buy below-market affordable units, and a shield against a potential wave of Ellis Act evictions. Renters voting their self-interest should vote for Prop R in November.

Mike Sullivan
San Francisco

Where's the drag Pride?

What's up with all the "artists" in this issue denigrating drag ["Heavy into Judy" and "Halfway to the stars," October 3]. ("Denigrating Drag" next on Oprah.)

Sammy Williams, said of *Doing Judy* "... It's not a drag show ... it's a real play." Tommy Femia, doing Judy at the Plush Room, says he does not consider himself a drag queen: "I'm an actor playing the role."

Well, honey(s), I'd bet you'd take a buck from a drag queen who might come see your show - that money is as green as any.

If these actors aren't comfy doing drag or being called drag queens, I'd suggest a "girlcott" by drag queens and their friends. Personally, I'd rather see a big fat real drag show with real drag queens. The skankier, the better.

Marc Huestis
San Francisco

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POLITICS

Duffy for District 8 supe

by Wayne Friday

There are a half-dozen supervisorial candidates in District 8 and they are all probably qualified to one degree or another to replace Assembly-bound Supervisor **Mark Leno**. But one of the candidates, **Bevan Duffy**, rates exceptional. As one who has lived in the area since it was known as District 5 and represented by Harvey Milk in the late 1970s, I'll tell you why I think Duffy is the best of the pack running in District 8.

Those, like myself, who know Duffy's history, know him to be an outstanding candidate because of his impressive working knowledge of the city services, neighborhood issues, and his proven ability to, quite simply, get things done. Duffy's run for supervisor is just part of a 17-year career in public service that spans from Capitol Hill to City Hall.

In Washington, Duffy worked for Democratic House members **Shirley Chisholm** and the late **Julian Dixon**. During that time, he drafted a bill requiring the United States to oppose International Monetary Fund loans to any country practicing apartheid. The bill, named the **Dixon Amendment**, began a wave of U.S. sanctions that helped bring democracy to South Africa.

Later, when **Susan Leal**, a close friend of Duffy's, was appointed to the Board of Supervisor, Bevan returned to San Francisco and became her chief of staff. He located early funding and support for the development of the Muni S line. Now, the S line delivers extra underground service from Embarcadero to Castro during peak times.

Later, as director of neighborhood services, Duffy championed neighborhood causes. When the Merchants of Upper Market and Castro requested funds for extra police patrols for Halloween, Duffy located city dollars to help keep the Castro safe.

When residents from the Western Addition wanted to transform the old 911 center into a computer learning center for youth and seniors, Duffy cut through the red tape and helped the computer center become a reality.

When folks on Oakwood Street wanted to stop a "monster" development on their block, it was Duffy who negotiated a compromise between the developer and the neighbors. Duffy has shown time and again that he understands the communities and that he works for us.

Duffy's strength is working on nuts and bolts issues, like public safety (the Pride Alliance, an association of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender police officers, has endorsed Duffy), neighborhood cleanliness (he organized Great Sweeps where thousands of San Franciscans cleaned tons of trash from their streets), and traffic safety (Bevan worked with the Department of Parking and Traffic on traffic calming and will increase the number of "countdown" crosswalk signals for District 8).

Duffy has earned my respect and the respect of many others for the high standards he has set for his campaign. He qualified for, but declined, public financing, explaining that the money (some



District 8 hopeful Bevan Duffy

\$45,000) would be better spent on needed city services. He is only accepting contributions of \$100 from individuals who live or work in San Francisco, and is saying no to political action committee, corporate, or lobbyist contributions.

I'm impressed, too, that Duffy is the only candidate to have active steering committees directed at women as well as our young people (under 30).

Another reason I think Duffy deserves to be elected November 5 - anyone who reads this paper knows of my frustration (along with so many others) with the homeless situation in San Francisco - is that he supports Proposition N, Care Not Cash, which would reform the City's homeless delivery service system. I'm told that Care Not Cash still enjoys an approval rating at around 75 percent.

This current Board of Supervisors still doesn't get it.

Duffy does. That's why he's enthusiastically supporting this measure. In addition, Duffy's campaign volunteers are delivering information about city services to the homeless in District 8, to ensure that help is provided for these folks.

For the past few years, local candidates have seemingly been characterized as either a "Brown person" or an "Ammiano person." Today, those descriptions seem less relevant. Next year, voters will be deciding who will be our next mayor. Today we need to focus on which person will do the best job for residents of District 8. There should be no question that Duffy is the most qualified candidate for that job.

More than the others, I believe, Duffy understands that everyday things matter; he's the supervisor we need in District 8. Additionally, our city's budget will be under a lot of pressure next year. We need someone who understands just how much every dollar counts. Duffy will make sure that every dollar spent on transportation, human services, affordable housing is well spent. Duffy has the experience, the know-how, and the drive to make this city work again, and he's made quality of life issues his top priority.

Bevan Duffy listens, and he delivers. His campaign posters say that he's "all about the neighborhood." Well, I believe him, and that's why I'll be voting for him on November 5 and ask you to join me in doing likewise.

Politics and people

One local proposition that all San Franciscans should be supporting next month is Proposition

H. The men and women of the San Francisco police and fire departments, as well as the paramedics, risk their lives every day to keep us safe; now it's our turn to protect them with pension parity. Vote yes on Proposition H.

And if you really want to do something about the (still) growing homeless problem in the city, call the Care Not Cash campaign (Proposition N) at (415) 731-1744 and vote yes on Proposition N on November 5.

District 6 Democrats have announced its endorsement of **Burke Strunsky** for supervisor; **Sean Connolly** for Superior Court judge; Yes on Proposition N (Care Not Cash); No on Proposition O (Exits from Homelessness).

On the state ballot, look for Proposition 52, the Election Day Voter Registration initiative plan, to go down in flames on Election Day. Same day voter registration? Not a particularly good idea; vote no on Proposition 52.

Politics of both major parties are still buzzing about the political infighting that took place during the recent state Republican convention in Orange County between supporters of conservative state GOP chairman **Shawn Steel** and **Gerry Parsky**, **George W. Bush's** go-to guy in California. The two warring Republican groups couldn't even close factions long enough to give their gubernatorial nominee, **Bill Simon**, any real reason for encouragement in next month's election.

Governor **Gray Davis**, however, while almost as unpopular as Simon, has seemingly pulled his Democratic loyalists together and they seem to be uniting behind the governor "for the good of the party," something the California Republicans seem unable to do.

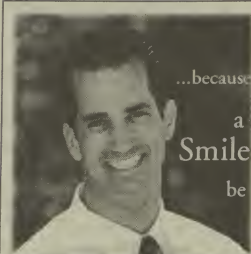
Indeed, with the *Los Angeles Times'* latest polling showing Davis with a solid 10-point lead over his GOP opponent, even Republican optimists fear a state Democratic sweep on November 5.

To the surprise of no one, Nevada's Catholic bishops said last week they support Question 2, an anti-gay marriage measure on that state's November ballot; the leaders of the Coalition for the Protection of Marriage, an anti-gay group in Nevada are predicting they will win with 70 percent of the vote.

New York U.S. Senator **Hillary Rodham Clinton** continues to say publicly that she has "no plans" to run for president in 2004, but Washington political insiders say she is first on the list to be tapped for vice president if North Carolina Senator **John Edwards** ends up as the '04 Democratic nominee.

Jeb talks gay trash: Florida Governor **Jeb Bush** (R) told a delegation of lawmakers last week that he had "some juicy details" about the sexual orientation of a missing Miami girl's caretakers. During a meeting last Wednesday, Bush implied that the two women, who had just been charged with fraud stemming from the investigation into **Rilya Wilson's** disappearance, were lesbians. As **Pamela Graham**, "was being arrested, she told her co-workers, 'Tell my wife I've been arrested.' The wife is the grandmother, and the aunt is the husband," Bush explained, using his fingers to indicate quotation marks to emphasize the word "grandmother." An attorney for one of the two women called the governor's comments "outrageous." The women say they are sisters.

And how was your week? ▼



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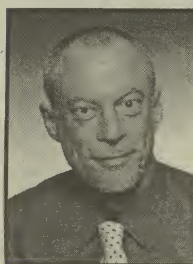
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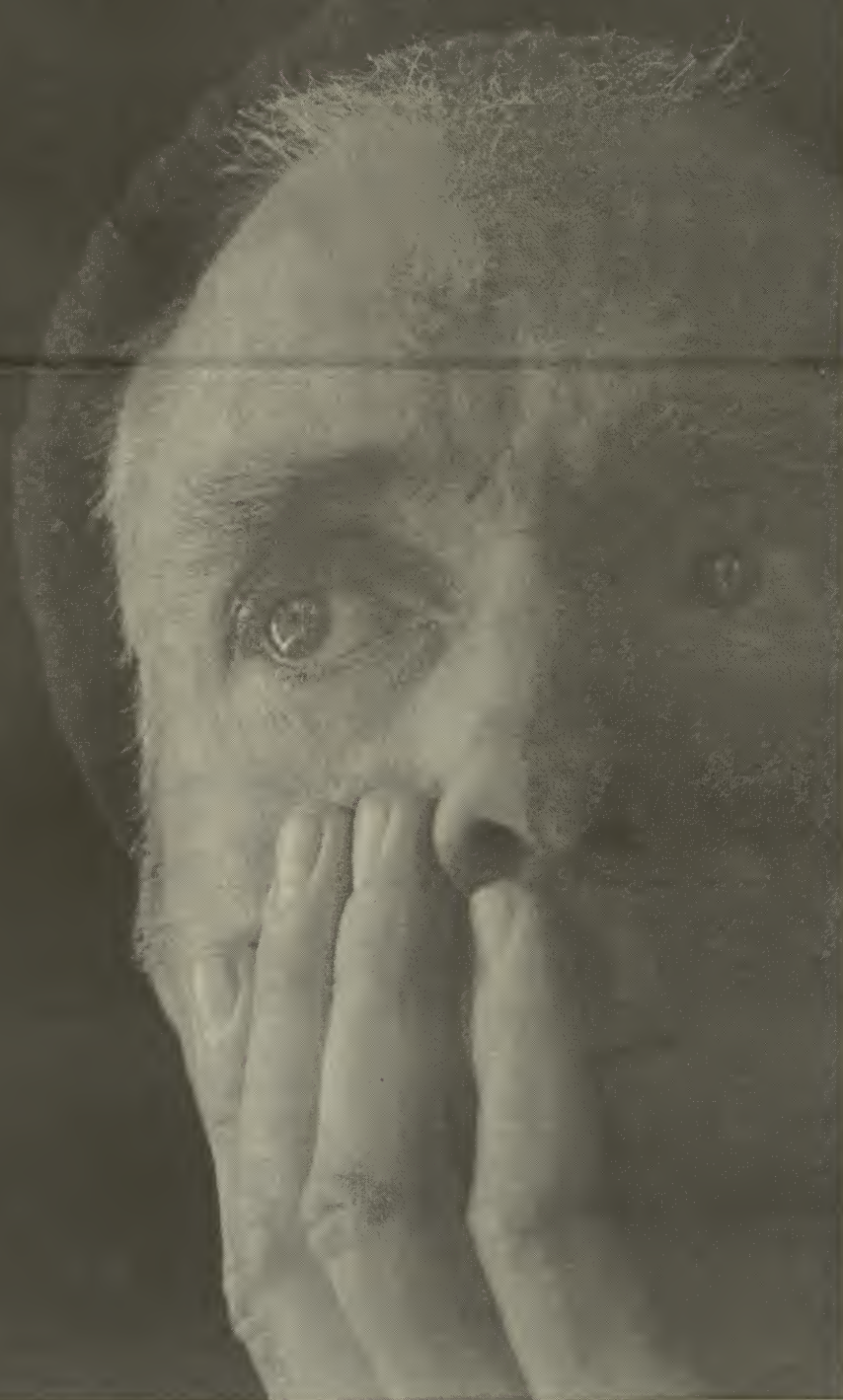
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Who was Robert Mapplethorpe?

by Q Syndicate staff

October 5, 1990 (12 years ago this month): Dennis Barrie, director of the Contemporary Arts Center in Cincinnati, is acquitted of obscenity charges, following an exhibit of photographs by bisexual artist Robert Mapplethorpe.

A finger inserted into a penis. A man urinating into another man's mouth. A bull-whip protruding from a man's anus. For some people, these images are erotic. For others, they're repulsive. But are they art?

Toward the end of the 20th century, Americans actually debated that question because of the audacious genius and remarkable skill of one of the most talented queer photographers in history — Robert Mapplethorpe. The controversies surrounding Mapplethorpe's more boundary-pushing works have played a key role in the debate over the boundaries of public art.

Born in 1946 in Long Island, Mapplethorpe was raised Catholic in a large family. He studied art in college, primarily painting and sculpture, though he soon began to include photographic images from magazines (including some pornography) in his works. At the start of the 1970s, he began taking the photos himself and, eventually, chose photography as his main medium.

At first, he mostly took photos of himself and his friends, especially singer Patti Smith, with whom the bisexual Mapplethorpe also had a sexual relationship. He became friends with queer pop art phenomenon Andy Warhol, who introduced him to Manhattan's gay underground and urged him to further his career by finding a mentor from the city's elite.

Taking Warhol's advice, in 1972, Mapplethorpe found a patron — and lover — in wealthy art collector Sam Wagstaff, who underwrote much of his early career.

As word of Mapplethorpe's talent grew, prominent people began paying him thousands of dollars per sitting to photograph them.

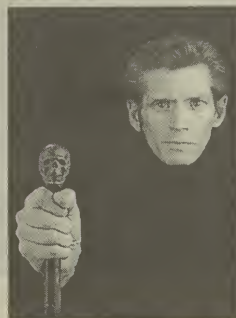
Throughout the 1970s, he photographed socialites and artists, porn stars and gay activists. Other favorite subjects included children, flowers, and penises. By the end of the decade his interests were becoming more sharply focused on subjects that aroused both his aesthetic and sexual predilections — such as nude black men, bondage, or both. While these portraits were sometimes scandalous in their content, they were always technically proficient.

The gay content of Mapplethorpe's art was overtly political. By shocking the public, he said, he could sensitize them to gay issues. At the same time, his Catholic upbringing found its way into his art. He described his nudes as having the orderliness of a church, while his still-life photographs (especially of calla lilies and other flowers) were starkly sexual in their curves and forms.

The artist said his point was "to transcend the subject" to a point of perfection, no matter where he aimed his camera: "Whether it's a cock or a flower, I'm looking at it in the same way."

In 1986 Mapplethorpe was diagnosed with AIDS, and his final works recorded the ravages of the disease. One famous self-portrait showed him holding a cane topped by a miniature skull that resembled his own gaunt visage. In March 1989, the photographer died at age 43. But the debate over his art had just begun.

In June of that year, under pressure from conservative members of Congress, the federally funded Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., announced it was canceling its display of a traveling exhibition entitled "Robert Mapplethorpe: The Perfect Moment." The gay and arts communities loudly protested the decision, picketing the museum and even projecting explicit slides of



Mapplethorpe's self-portrait

Mapplethorpe photos on the building's facade.

The museum eventually apologized to the arts community, but criticism of explicit art by conservative members of Congress was on the rise. After extensive debate, Congress cut the budget of the National Endowment for the Arts and tightened the rules for future funding of explicit art.

The biggest Mapplethorpe controversy came in April 1990, just after "The Perfect Moment" opened at the Contemporary Arts Center in Cincinnati. Despite its nickname of the Queen City, Cincinnati's battles with pornography (and especially with the city's *bête noire*, Larry Flynt) had made headlines for decades. Spurred on by community watchdog group Citizens for Community Values, local Sheriff Simon Leis had the museum and its director, Dennis Barrie, indicted for pandering obscenity.

The charges complained of seven "offensive" portraits in the exhibition, most of which involved sadomasochism and child nudity. If convicted, Barrie faced a \$2,000 fine and up to a year in jail, and the museum faced a \$10,000 fine.

The gay community was actually divided on the Cincinnati controversy. The largest local gay organization, Stonewall Cincinnati, insisted on neutrality. Some gays and lesbians downplayed the homosexuality in Mapplethorpe's work, while others took the brouhaha personally, as the exhibit was considered scandalous mostly because of bias against queer sexuality.

After a 10-day trial, the jury took just two hours to announce its verdict. To convict, it would have had to find that the photographs appealed to a prurient interest in sex, were offensive, and lacked artistic merit. While the jurors agreed on the first two points, they did not agree on an absence of artistic merit, and so they came back with a verdict of not guilty on all counts.

At one rally supporting the exhibit, a sign aptly summarized the importance of the ongoing debates over Mapplethorpe's opus. It pointed out that the CCV did what the anti-AIDS drug AZT was never able to do — it "kept Mapplethorpe alive." ▼

Past Out has been exploring gay and lesbian history for more than six years. Comments can be sent to this publication or POColumn@aol.com. The above column was written by members of Q Syndicate staff under the supervision of Paula Martinac.

Suggested reading

Fritscher, Jack. 1994. *Mapplethorpe: Assault With a Deadly Camera*. New York: Hastings House.

Morrisroe, Patricia. 1995. *Mapplethorpe: A Biography*. New York: Random House.

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1. Do you have a decrease in sex drive?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6. Are you sad or grumpy?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Do you have a lack of energy?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	7. Are your erections less strong?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Has your strength or endurance decreased?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	8. Have you noticed a recent deterioration in your ability to play sports?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Have you lost height?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	9. Do you fall asleep after dinner?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Are you enjoying life less?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	10. Has your work performance decreased lately?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

If you answer yes to question 1 or 7 or at least three of the other questions, you might have low testosterone levels. Fortunately, you can replace testosterone. Talk to your doctor about restoring your sex drive, energy and mood.

1. Dobs AS. Androgen therapy in AIDS wasting. *Bailliere's Clin Endocrinol Metab* 1998;12:379-390. 2. Grinspoon S, Corcoran C, Askari H, et al. Effects of androgen administration in men with the AIDS wasting syndrome; a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial. *Ann Intern Med* 1998;129:18-26. 3. Morley JE et al. Saint Louis University Androgen Deficiency in Aging Men (ADAM) Questionnaire. *Metabolism* 2000;49:1239-42.



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Country-western dancers two-step for charity

by Matthew S. Bajko

Hundreds of gay and lesbian dancers will two-step and swing into San Francisco October 18 for the second annual Sundance Stompede, a weekend of dance workshops and parties. The weekend's dance gala, "Hoedown 2002" on Saturday night, will benefit the AIDS and Breast Cancer Emergency Funds.

The annual hoedown will take place Saturday, October 19 in the Galleria Design Center's atrium from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. and features live performances by musical groups and San Francisco's Barbary Coast Cloggers, and a raffle and silent auction hosted by the SOMA Bare Chest Calendar men.

"The stompede is a great place for beginners, and also a great place for experienced dancers to learn more moves," said Ingu Yun, president of San Francisco's Sundance Association for Country-Western Dancing, the all-volunteer group that puts on the yearly stompede and hoedown.

Saturday also features a clogging workshop as well as beginning and intermediate two-step lessons. Sunday's workshops feature East Coast and West Coast swing (California's state dance), from beginning to advanced levels. The dance workshops take place at the Ramada Plaza Hotel from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each



Two-steppers on the dance floor at a recent hoedown.

day, and cost \$15 for the entire day.

The weekend ends Sunday night with a closing Stompede Ball from 6 to 11 p.m. at *Space 550 at 550 Barneveld Avenue and features a "Sleazy Shadow" dance contest. In shadow dancing, partners are in full body contact with the leader leading his or her partner from behind, and the "sleaziest" pair wins this contest. A "Jack-and-Jill" two-step contest tests dancers' skills by pairing them up arbitrarily with partners they may not have danced with before.

Sunday's event also gives

dancers a spin on the Sundance Association's new \$20,000 dance floor, installed by Sundance members when the club had to move its weekly Sunday evening dance from Club Universe after it closed in July.

The weekend kicks off with a welcome party from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Friday with non-stop partner and line-dancing on the huge hardwood floor of the Ramada Plaza Hotel's ballroom.

To purchase tickets, visit the Sundance Stompede's Web site at www.stompede.com or call (415) 820-1403. ▼

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Power is into small gov't

by Joe Dignan

Rob Power is a candidate for District 6 supervisor. He's a Libertarian. And he's gay. "San Francisco's a one-party town, that's not much of a secret," Power said, referring to the Democratic Party. "But there are only two parties that as part of their platform won't discriminate against gay people, the Greens and Libertarians. Since 1972, the Libertarians have had a gay rights plank in their platform."

Power and several other candidates are running against incumbent District 6 Supervisor Chris Daly in the November 5 election.

Power's right-of-center Libertarian politics would eliminate zoning controls in the city, turn over all social service programs to private charities, and slash the role of government in people's lives.

"Anything funded by the city is inherently inefficient," Power said. "We need to take care of people the way we used to: neighbor helping neighbor, family helping family."

Power, 26, comes from Nashville, Tennessee. He moved here in 2000. In school, he studied aerospace and industrial engineering, earning a master's degree. He also has an MBA. His parents have been active Nashville community activists, he said, but never with campaigns for public office. "I was pretty much on the



Candidate Rob Power

same path," Power said, "and would not have thought of running for office, had I not been specifically asked by the local Libertarian Party. I chose to run because the Socialists sold a bill of goods to the residents of District 6 in 2000. Now, two years later, things are worse in this district, not better."

"District 6," Power added, "needs someone who believes that the status quo can't be continued with big nonprofits and special interests controlling politics."

At a candidate forum on October 8, Steve Fields of the Progress Foundation, a nonprofit mental health service provider, questioned Power. "Next time there's a trauma care need at SF General," Fields

asked, "do you think the bake sale will have covered the cost?"

"If you believe that people are inherently evil," Power answered, "then the Libertarian model doesn't work. But people are kind, and they will help others."

Power's small government approach is reflected in his small candidacy. Power said that he's one of two active Libertarians who live in District 6. The other one, a psychologist, was too busy to run, so Power stepped up to the plate. He paid the \$500 filing fee himself, actually \$497 because he got a few more signatures than the statutory minimum.

His campaign headquarters is the SOMA apartment that he shares with his boyfriend. He works as a computer programmer in Oakland.

Power said his campaign is pretty much limited to attending the candidate forums put on by neighborhood groups, although he said he will miss at least one, at the SOMA Leadership Council, because, he said, "I'm the only candidate that travels by public transportation, and there's not enough time to get there."

He said he's not campaigning on the street because he can't get the time off work, and if he did, he said, "my boss would give me a permanent vacation."

For more information, visit www.robpower.org.

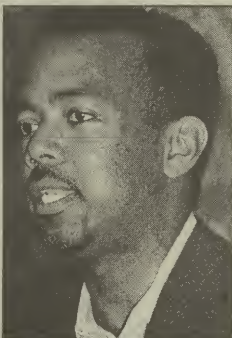
Gordon goes for details

by Zak Szymanski

If there's one thing that rubs Roger Gordon the wrong way, it's when his fellow candidates for supervisor in District 6 generalize proposed solutions for the complex problems that face his district.

"It's easy to make a statement like, 'We need to get drug dealers off the streets,'" said Gordon. "But what are the implications? Why are the drug dealers there? Do the people with these so-called solutions know the difference between for-profit dealing and sustenance dealing, and have they done the analysis to approach an issue from many angles?"

Gordon, 35, believes he has the tools and experience necessary to answer the challenges. A Tenderloin resident for the last six months, he has worked full-time in the neighborhood for the past three years as executive director of Urban Solutions, a neighborhood economic development organization. His approach to everything is multi-faceted, but focused: he believes, for instance, that by con-



Candidate Roger Gordon

centrating on what the district's children need—clean streets, education, community involvement, green space, and a general good quality of life—the district's problems will be addressed, and all of its residents will benefit.

A self-described "true progressive," Gordon's action plan includes opening a middle school in

the district, and designating 2 percent of the thousands of units of housing planned for construction as low cost housing to district teachers. He wants to keep the district's diversity intact—which includes the homeless and people of all income levels—but he wants the services to be more accessible and utilized. He also believes in attracting positive businesses—instead of, say, liquor stores—to neighborhoods like 6th Street and the Tenderloin, and most importantly implementing more supportive housing models to break the cycle of homelessness by addressing its causes. The lefties have thus far failed, he said, to provide solutions for the district's woes.

"I think Chris Daly needs to recognize that there is another side of the equation," Gordon said of the district's incumbent supervisor, who ran and won on a progressive platform two years ago. "We need someone who can build things, not just stop things from happening. Our lack of progress undermines our credibility... how can you be

page 20 ►

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 Conducted by: Center for AIDS Prevention Studies
 University of California, San Francisco
CONTINUE TO TELL THE STORY...

Nonoxynol-9

◀ page 1

ports on N-9.

"With one fell swoop of the pen, you did what I couldn't do in two years," said Taylor.

After the B.A.R.'s series of reports documenting that N-9 lube continues to be sold throughout San Francisco, even in stores that cater to gay men, the owner of the Phantom and Smoke Plus stores in the Castro voluntarily pulled N-9 lube from his shelves. Imad Bitar said the his primary concern is the safety of his customers. Walgreens also decided to pull N-9 lube from its Castro store and said it is considering pulling it from all its stores.

Although manufacturers will stop making N-9 lube, at least three companies will continue to make condoms laced with N-9. Those N-9 condoms are manufactured under the brand names of LifeStyles, Durex, and Trojans. Taylor pointed out that the pre-lubed condoms contain a higher concentration of N-9 than was found in lubricants, about 2-6 percent. N-9 lubricants contained anywhere from one-tenth-of-one-percent to 1 percent N-9. The one exception was KY Plus lubricant, which contained 3 percent N-9, according to the Global Campaign.

Taylor said most of the lubricant in pre-lubed condoms rubs off on the anal sphincter, one of the most critical areas for infec-

tion. Global Campaign spokeswoman Lori Heise said that although N-9 lubricants were her highest concern, N-9 lubricated condoms are also of concern. Heise noted that if the condom breaks, it could subject the user to a greater danger and subsequent sex acts would also be more risky after the anus is already damaged.

N-9 was first added to condoms after laboratory tests showed it killed HIV in the test tube. Subsequent studies have shown that it has the opposite effect because it strips away the protective epithelial cells in the anus of its users, increasing the risk of HIV transmission.

In its lengthy report on N-9, the World Health Organization concluded that N-9 condoms "should not be promoted." WHO said N-9 condoms do not provide its users with any additional contraceptive benefit and do not prevent any diseases.

Heise told the B.A.R. that condom makers are reluctant to stop making their product line with N-9 because it represents about 40 percent of their business.

A representative of LifeStyles condoms, Carol Carozza, told the B.A.R. that her company continues to make the product because it's legal and has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration. Before hanging up on the B.A.R., Carozza parroted that any questions about the safety and effectiveness of N-9 condoms should be directed to the FDA. When asked how she would respond to activists who say that the product her company makes is killing people, Carozza again refused to answer and said the B.A.R. should contact the FDA.

The FDA did not respond to

the B.A.R.'s e-mail or phone message by press time. Representatives of the companies that make Durex and Trojans also did not return the B.A.R.'s calls and e-mails by press time.

In the wake of the B.A.R.'s series of stories on the N-9 danger, San Francisco Supervisor Mark Leno asked the city attorney to draft legislation banning N-9 lube in San Francisco. Leno's aid, Bob Hartnagel, told the B.A.R. that he was very pleased that manufacturers responded to public pressure and voluntarily stopped making N-9 lube. He said he would discuss with Leno whether the manufacturers' decision essentially makes their proposal moot or whether they should consider proposing legislation that would ban N-9 condoms.

The new N-9?

Heise said she was very concerned after recently reading a label for the ForPlay lubricant. She said that product contained two surfactants, or detergents called benzalkonium chloride (BZK) and chlorhexidine. She explained that those ingredients, like other surfactants, break down cell membranes. She said there was no reason for a company to put those ingredients in lubricants except to give the consumer a false impression that the product is better than other lubricants without it.

Heise said she planned to discuss the matter with Robin Ogilvie, the owner of Trimensa, the company that makes ForPlay. Heise strongly advised consumers to avoid lubricants that list benzalkonium chloride or chlorhexidine on the label.

Ogilvie did not return the B.A.R.'s calls by press time. ▼

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LYRIC

◀ page 5

justice; and that same year was honored with the Queer Youth Training Collaborative Excellence Award. Tham's most recent job was as a planner and policy analyst for the San Francisco Department of Children, Youth, and Families, a position she enjoyed but that she found lacked attention to queer issues.

"In the city there really is a void around the idea that queer youth have specific needs and are also an important part of the broader youth community," said Tham. "I really wanted to go back to queer youth circles and do some work around that."

Gordon

◀ page 18

progressive without any progress?" Describing his district as a "troubled adolescent," Gordon plans to make use of his background to tackle the very real growing pains faced by his neighborhoods.

Gordon has served as a board member and officer of Big Brothers Big Sisters of San Francisco; a board member of San Francisco Planning and Urban Research; a researcher and investigator of alleged sham minority contracting by large utility companies for the Law Offices of Public Advocates and the Greenlining Coalition; an emergency medical technician and Red Cross CPR instructor; a complaint mediator for the consumer protection division of the Massachusetts Attorney General's office; and a member of the Northern California Advisory Board of Human Rights Watch. As the director at Urban Solutions, he

Tham's background and experiences as an immigrant, she said, should also prove useful to LYRIC, which serves a diverse population that is predominantly young people of color.

"All the obstacles I have encountered through homophobia, racism, and anti-immigrant sentiment," she said, "just made my voice even stronger."

Tham replaces Brian Chu, who left LYRIC earlier this year to become the executive director at San Francisco's new LGBT Community Center.

LYRIC will host a "meet the new executive director" event on Wednesday, November 13, from 4:30-7 p.m. at 127 Collingwood Street. All community members are encouraged to attend. ▼

proposed a 6th Street clean-up plan praised by the San Francisco Police Department, and secured more than \$750,000 to strengthen small businesses and build out vacant storefronts.

Gordon is endorsed by the African American Democratic Club; the Golden Gate Restaurant Association; the International Longshore and Warehouse Union; Rescue Muni; San Francisco Small Business Advocates; San Francisco Women's Political Committee; Small Property Owners of San Francisco; and the Transport Workers Union Local 250-A. He also earned the PAC recommendation from the Alice B. Toklas LGBT Democratic Club, which failed to make an endorsement in the district.

"I've worked directly with the people affected by our issues," said Gordon. "I believe I am the right person to serve this community."

More information can be found at www.gordonfor6.org; by visiting Gordon's headquarters at 277th Street in SOMA; or by calling (415) 775-0344. ▼

OBITUARIES

Gay mayor of Paris stabbed

by Bob Roehr

The mayor of Paris, Bertrand Delanoe, suffered serious knife wounds to the abdomen during an assault on Sunday, October 6. He was stabbed in the early morning hours while attending an all-night cultural festival in the Paris City Hall.

Delanoe, 52, is one of the highest-ranking openly gay elected officials in the world. He publicly came out in a 1998 television interview and was elected mayor in 2001, becoming the first Socialist elected to that post. His sexual orientation has been a non-factor,

until now.

The man held in the assault is Azedine Berkane, 39, who told police that he "did not like politicians and in particular did not like homosexuals." He has a police record for theft and assault, and was treated for psychiatric problems in April, authorities said.

Berkane is said to be a devout Muslim of Algerian background whose family lives in a depressed Paris suburb. While there appear to be no immediate ties to radical Islamic groups, the facts of the case are likely to inflame tensions in France over a Muslim population - often second and third generation immigrants - that has not



Paris Mayor Bertrand Delanoe

been well assimilated into the economic and cultural mainstream of the nation.

Delanoe lost a significant amount of blood and underwent extensive surgery of several hours for his wounds. While they are not considered life-threatening, he is expected to remain in the hospital for at least a week. ▼

Davis bid

◀ page 1

dles to be sold to people without a prescription. That bill was strongly supported by HIV/AIDS activists, who argued that such a program would make it easier for people who inject drugs to use clean needles, helping prevent the spread of AIDS and hepatitis C.

Davis faces Republican challenger Bill Simon, Camejo, and several minor party candidates in the November 5 general election. Recent polls show Davis with a lead over Simon, but many polls and news accounts over the last several weeks also show voters don't particularly like Davis or Simon.

Davis has come under fire for his nonstop fundraising - in fact, Monday's LGBT event was closed to the media and guests had to pay \$125 to attend - and other issues.

Simon has been roundly criticized for his business failings. He also flip-flopped on gay rights when he disavowed a questionnaire sent to him by the Log Cabin Republicans in which he initially indicated support for gay Pride day and domestic partnerships. He quickly retracted that support after getting angry calls from Christian conservatives.

On Monday, Davis arrived at the center at about 6 p.m. and was hustled inside through the service entrance on the Waller Street side of the building. He gave a few waiting protesters a "thumbs up" sign as he quickly went inside. Most of the demonstrators were on the Market Street side of the building, near the center's main entrance.

On Tuesday, October 8, San Francisco Supervisor Mark Leno

told the Bay Area Reporter that while he understands LGBT voters' frustrations with Davis, he must be re-elected. Leno is likely to win the 13th District Assembly seat in next month's election, becoming the first openly gay man elected to the state Assembly. John Laird, another gay man who's likely to win his bid for the 27th Assembly District seat (Boulder Creek), could join Leno in the Legislature.

"It was a complete lovefest inside," Leno said. "It was a very supportive crowd."

Leno said that he's been telling people that if Davis is not re-elected, then when he and Laird get to Sacramento, "all the work we want to do for the community will come to an end before it's started."

While Leno said that it was important to have the other voices protesting the governor outside, he indicated that a conservative Republican like Simon would not be supportive of bills furthering equality for the LGBT community.

Leno said that during the event, Davis spoke about his accomplishments such as signing the statewide domestic partner registry law, and a law that prohibits harassment and discrimination of students in California schools on the basis of sexual orientation.

"He also recounted that there wasn't \$1 cut from AIDS funding," Leno said.

"I'm sure John [Laird] and Mark [Leno] will have lots of bills, and I'll sign most of them," Davis reportedly said, according to one source.

"We're all God's children," Davis also said, according to two attendees.

All Our Families' Charlie

and Sharon Johnson, chief of staff for state Senator John Burton (D-San Francisco).

Through her nonprofit ties, Hansen also has received monetary support from Nancy Andrews, director of the Low Income Housing Fund; Patricia Chang, director of The Women's Foundation; Anne Stanton, executive director of Larkin Street Youth Services; Bob Nelson, director of Dolores Street Community Services; and Barbara Lubin, executive director of the Middle East Children's Alliance.

Radulovich received early support for his campaign from Leno and the late Robert Barnes's political consulting firm Barnes, Mosher, Whitehurst, Lauter and Partners, raking in \$1,600 from employees of the firm and the supervisor. He has also received con-

tributions from Supervisor Aaron Peskin; Supervisor Chris Daly's legislative assistant Bill Barnes; Forest City Development Vice President Natalie Berg; San Francisco Examiner president and BART board member James Fang; and Gina Papan, daughter of state Assemblyman Lou Papan (D-Millbrae).

So far, less money has been raised by the 2002 campaigns than during 2000 when Leno and Hansen battled it out to represent the Castro and Noe Valley on the board. During that race, \$185,454 had been raised during the first nine months of 2000, while only \$133,194 has been raised this year during the same time period.

With matching funds from the city, that figure climbs to \$164,654, still less than what was raised two years ago. ▼

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District 8 cash

◀ page 1

host of community leaders including nightclub owners Terrence Alan, Gus Bean, and Audrey Joseph; Eureka Valley Promotion Association President Gustavo Serina; Patrick Batt, president of Merchants of Upper Market and Castro; as well as dozens of police officers and sheriffs deputies, including Mission Station Captain Greg Corrales and Assistant Police Chief Alex Fagan.

Throwing their financial support to Hansen are District Attorney Terence Hallinan; Public Defender-elect Jeff Adachi; former Harvey Milk Club President Jerry Threet; school board member Mark Sanchez; Peter Kearns, a member of the city's rent board;

and Sharon Johnson, chief of staff for state Senator John Burton (D-San Francisco).

Through her nonprofit ties, Hansen also has received monetary support from Nancy Andrews, director of the Low Income Housing Fund; Patricia Chang, director of The Women's Foundation; Anne Stanton, executive director of Larkin Street Youth Services; Bob Nelson, director of Dolores Street Community Services; and Barbara Lubin, executive director of the Middle East Children's Alliance.

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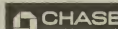
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Freeze frame

by Jim Provenzano

With all this hot weather, why not cool things down with some ice?

Eight members of the San Francisco Quakes are headed to Sydney to compete in Gay Games VI ice hockey events.

The Quakes compete in hockey tournaments up and down the West Coast. They're adding some players from Colorado to their ranks, and will no doubt face some of their familiar U.S. and Canadian opponents.

Michelle Mateychuk started playing in Canada, in Moosejaw, Saskatchewan.

She moved here in May 2001, and now plays wing position for the Quakes. She enjoys the "team sport environment. It's really fast-paced. It's a challenge," particularly at 5 feet 3 inches.

What brought her to California? "I found a girl and a job," she laughed.

Mateychuk's girlfriend is volunteering in the medic area in Sydney. Afterwards, they're going diving at the Barrier Reef, and taking an Outback tour.

Way, Jose

Mark Bonine has played ice hockey since 1998.

"I hung out with some of the Quakes in Amsterdam and was inspired, so I took lessons for a year," he said.

He joined the team in 1999.

Born in Michigan, he never played organized sports as a kid. "I didn't think I could do it. I skated as a kid, but not for hockey, only hiking and some snow skiing. Growing up near a lake in Michigan, skating was a little different than an ice rink."

His first trip to Sydney was

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memorable. In December 1999, Bonine landed down under with sharp stomach pains. He got a taste of Australian hospitality by getting his appendix removed.

When the surgeons found out their patient's home, as he went under the anesthesia, the very friendly medical team sang "Do You Know the Way to San Jose."

The remainder of his trip was a bit more relaxing, but he's hoping this visit will not include any surgery, other than cutting pucks across the ice.

For more info visit www.sfquakes.com or call Mateychuk at (510) 653-8896.

The for-ski saga

Whether you're headed to Sydney or not, cool sports vacations can be had with SAGA North Ski and Snowboard Club, the gay and lesbian group geared toward enjoying the great outdoors of Tahoe and other resorts.

With 200 members, activities take place throughout the winter for ski enthusiasts of all levels. They've also served as a framework for other GLBT ski groups around the country.

Glenn Visgitus, SAGA's treasurer, pointed out that while Aspen and other gay ski events appeal to the circuit crowd, he and many SAGA members "are definitely not the circuit type. The group is really friendly and diverse."

He noted that most day trips cost less than \$100, and that "Lessons are always available for new people." They also have non-ski social events around the Bay Area.

Board member Rich Waterman enjoys the social aspects of this fun recreational sport. "About 20 percent of our members are new to skiing. You don't have to be a great skier to enjoy it."

SAGA member Craig Smith skied in his hometown in upstate New York, and in Utah, and in Switzerland. While he admitted,

"It's not a cheap sport," he noted that SAGA's group rates make it easier for interested skiers to save money and find new friends.

SAGA groups regularly head out for day trips to Tahoe, weekend adventures to Northstar, Heavenly, Sugar Bowl, and other resorts.

As snowboarding increases in popularity, so do opportunities for lessons and fun.

Whether a novice or pro, it's a great way to enjoy the cool weather outside the Bay Area.

SAGA North's next membership meeting is this Sunday, October 13, at Ft. Mason Center Building C Room 370 at 6:30 p.m. They meet again in November. For more info, visit www.saganorth.com, e-mail info@saganorth.com, or call (415) 995-2772.



Sports Complex

Show of hands

Federation of Gay Games board members

Derek Liecietz, Gene Dermody, and Sarah Waddell Lewinstein announced their accord with the Bay Area Sports Organizing Committee, which hopes to snag the U.S. role in the bid to host the 2012 Olympics.

"We hope by working with Bay Area leaders of the federation that we will be an example for other cities on how to be inclusive and collaborative in bringing the community together to achieve our goals," said Anne Cribbs, CEO of the BASOC.

On the scenic balcony of San Francisco's LGBT Community Center, reps from the Gay Games and the Bay Area Olympic bid effort shook hands, exchanged hugs, and spoke at length of a new era of cooperation.

"We want to make sure the dark chapter of the past is closed," Cribbs said, referring to the larger U.S. Olympic Committee's cruel lawsuit waged against Olympic medalist and Gay Games co-founder Tom Waddell over the term "Gay Olympics."

"We're not always proud of our past. This isn't an attempt to excuse the mistreatment of Tom Waddell. It's a step in the right direction. We have much work to do to overcome homophobia in sports."

Dog house

Enjoy Monday Night Football and raising bucks for your mutts at a "tailgate party" and "all you can eat" buffet. Proceeds go to Pets Are Wonderful Support, the volunteer-based organization that helps improve the quality of life for persons with AIDS and other disabling illnesses. The event is this Monday, October 14 at 6 p.m. at Club Rendez-Vous, 1312 Polk Street, at Bush.

P.R., Sweetie

What, you haven't seen PINS, my gay wrestling play? You only have until Sunday! New Conservatory Theatre Center, (415) 861-8972. Reviews, ticket links, and more at www.myrmidude.com.

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VACANCY NOTICES - Boards, Commissions, Task Force

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Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee: Composed of concerned and informed residents, will provide a source of expertise on issues concerning pedestrian safety, convenience, and ambulance and planning. The Advisory Committee members shall serve at the pleasure of the Board of Supervisors. The membership shall consist of representatives from the following categories/organizations: 3 from pedestrian safety; 2 from transit or environmental; one from bicycle or other non-motorized wheeled personal transport; one from public health; and two at-large members. Applicants are encouraged, but not required, to provide additional information in the form of a resume; and/or supplemental information sheet (available from the Office of Supervisor Jake McGoldrick, (415) 554-7410, email mailto:jake.mcgoldrick@sfgov.org Safe Haven for Newborns Task Force: Is charged with determining how to implement SB 1368, which provides for the safe surrender of unwanted newborns. The Task Force shall be comprised of eleven members.

Vacant Seat 1, appointed by the Board of Supervisors, must be a representative from the community with expertise in the area of domestic violence, for a new one year term that expires on October 1, 2003

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)

The Redevelopment Agency seeks a qualified, enthusiastic consultant to actively promote the Fillmore Jazz Preservation District. The qualified consultant will operate the promotion office full time and establish an effective promotions strategy to force a positive image through advertising, retail promotional activity, special events and marketing campaigns. Previous commercial district revitalization experience desired.

Pre-submittal meeting and district tour for prospective consultants: October 21, 2002 at 10:00 AM in the Agency's parking lot on the corner of Fillmore & Eddy Sts. Responses Due: By 3:00 pm, November 12, 2002. The RFQ is also available on the Agency's web site at www.sfgov.org/infra

To receive the RFQ packet please contact:

Ms. Denise Blades,
San Francisco Redevelopment Agency
770 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102
Phone: (415) 749-2438
Email: Denise.Blades@sfgov.org

POLL WORKERS NEEDED

Help your community while making up to \$130 (includes training) for one day of work on Election Day in November 5, 2002. You must be a U.S. citizen, a resident of San Francisco, and at least 18 years old by November 5, 2002. OR a high school student between the ages of 16 and 17 years old. Those fluent in Spanish and English, or Chinese and English, are encouraged to apply. If you sign up early, we may be able to place you in pairs at the polling station of your choice. If you are part of an organization, you can make this a fundraising event. If you can get twelve people in your organization to volunteer as Poll Workers, your organization will receive a check for \$1,284. The more poll workers you provide, the more money your organization will receive. Call the Department of Elections at (415) 554-4395 now, or come down to City Hall, Room 34, to sign up!

STATEMENT FILE 0260841-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: National Car Rental Alamo Rent A Car. 1600 Mission Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Robert Heymann, president. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on November 3, 1999. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/12/2002.
SEPT. 19, 26, OCT. 3, 10, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 0260532-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Blue Room Leathers. 3410 19th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by an individual signed Darren Anthony Corey. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on August 29, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/29/2002.
SEPT. 19, 26, OCT. 3, 10, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 259728

The following person(s) are doing business as: Third Eye Media. 3410 19th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Pedro Tuyub, Sandy Staggs, and Charles Aymar Hack. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/31/2002.
SEPT. 26, OCT. 3, 10, 17, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 260054

The following person(s) are doing business as: Prime Time Realty. 461 2nd Street #C322, San Francisco, Ca. 94107. This business is conducted by an individual signed Peter Keigman. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 08/13/2002.
SEPT. 19, 26, OCT. 3, 10, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 0260711-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Goldsmith Gardens. 50 Laguna Street, #505, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by an individual signed John Joseph Goldsmith. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on September 06, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/06/2002.
SEPT. 19, 26, OCT. 3, 10, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 0260860-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: SF Pied-A-Terre. 11 Sussex Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94131-3011. This business is conducted by an individual signed Judith E. Stevenson. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on September 12, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/12/2002.
SEPT. 19, 26, OCT. 3, 10, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 0260941-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: DKKP. 808 Potrero Avenue. San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by an individual signed Paul R. Lozada. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on September 17, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/17/2002.
SEPT. 26, OCT. 3, 10, 17, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 0261009-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: One Time. 808 Potrero Avenue. San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by an individual signed Aaron Lozada. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on September 19, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/19/2002.
SEPT. 26, OCT. 3, 10, 17, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 0260999-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Bangkok BBQ. 1375 9th Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94124. This business is conducted by an individual signed Danon Pongtorn. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/19/2002.
SEPT. 26, OCT. 3, 10, 17, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 0261028-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Saltbridge Music. 99 Lois Lane San Francisco, Ca. 94134. This business is conducted by an individual signed David Gladstein. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/20/2002.
SEPT. 26, OCT. 3, 10, 17, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 0261043-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: The Outbacks. 2123 Castro Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94131. This business is conducted by an individual signed Richard Alpert. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on September 1, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/20/2002.
SEPT. 26, OCT. 3, 10, 17, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 0260420-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: National Product. 1845 Market Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by an individual signed Douglas A. Domonkos. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 08/26/2002.
SEPT. 26, OCT. 3, 10, 17, 2002

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. CMC02-540441

In the Matter of the Application of Mohamed-Ali Jaoua. For change of Name. The application of Mohamed-Ali Jaoua for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Mohamed-Ali Jaoua has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Alexander Jawa. Now therefore, It is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 7th day of November at 9:00am, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.
SEPT. 19, 26, OCT. 3, 10, 2002

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. CMC02-540454

In the Matter of the Application of James Allen Malone. For change of Name. The application of James Allen Malone for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that James Allen Malone has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to (The name is confidential and is on record with the secretary of state). Now therefore, It is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 18th day of November at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.
SEPT. 19, 26, OCT. 3, 10, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 0261037-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: It's All About Me Photographic Services. 84 Jennings Court San Francisco, Ca. 94124. This business is conducted by an individual signed David G. Ingram. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on September 20, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/20/2002.
SEPT. 26, OCT. 3, 10, 17, 2002

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. CMC02-540421

In the Matter of the Application of Leila Mozelle Marie Brown. For change of Name. The application of Leila Mozelle Marie Brown for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Leila Mozelle Marie Brown has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Leila Mozelle Marie Djermouli. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 21st day of October at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.
SEPT. 26, OCT. 3, 10, 17, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 0260891-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Continental Mail Co. 537 Jones Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by an individual signed David Edward White. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on September 11, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/13/2002.
OCT. 3, 10, 17, 24, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 0261220-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Chutney. 511- Jones Street San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Mohammad A. Bajwa and Arif Zahir. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on September 27, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/27/2002.
OCT. 3, 10, 17, 24, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 0261212-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Van Ness Auto Body. 74 12th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94112. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Tony Feng and Stanley Zhu. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on September 25, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/27/2002.
OCT. 3, 10, 17, 24, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 0261318-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Thal Place. 2 312 Divisadero Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by an individual signed Nopkun Ouitayakul. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on October 02, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 10/02/2002.
OCT. 10, 17, 24, 31, 2002

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. CMC02-540459

In the Matter of the Application of Hnin Soe Moe. For change of Name. The application of Hnin Soe Moe for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Hnin Soe Moe has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Mabel Soe Moe. Now therefore, It is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 25th day of November at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.
OCT. 3, 10, 17, 24, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 0261246-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Poseidon Construction. 1495 Golden Gate Avenue Apt. #303, San Francisco, Ca. 94115. This business is conducted by an Individual signed Ante Vljajcic. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on September 30, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/30/2002.
OCT. 10, 17, 24, 31, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 0261345-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: In And Out Plumbing. 3830 Irving Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94122. This business is conducted by an individual signed Atef Abbas. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on October 04, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 10/03/2002.
OCT. 10, 17, 24, 31, 2002

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

To Whom It May Concern: The Name of the Applicant(s) is: Ouitayakul Nopkun. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverages Control at: 185 Berry Street, suite #5600 San Francisco, Ca. 94107, to sell alcoholic beverages at: 312 Divisadero Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. Type of license Applied for:

41-ON SALE BEER AND WINE EATING PLACE

OCTOBER 10, 17, 24, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 0261305-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Baldoria Trattoria. 2162 Larkin Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Paolo Gaili, president. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on October 01, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 10/01/2002.
OCT. 10, 17, 24, 31, 2002

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

To Whom It May Concern: The Name of the Applicant(s) is: Hine Laboratories Inc. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverages Control at: 185 Berry Street, suite #5600 San Francisco, Ca. 94107, to sell alcoholic beverages at: 365 Tehama Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. Type of license Applied for:

20- OFF SALE BEER AND WINE

OCT. 10, 17, 24, 2002

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. CMC02-540472

In the Matter of the Application of Dawn Marie Weinschrott. For change of Name. The application of Dawn Marie Weinschrott for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Dawn Marie Weinschrott has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Dawn Marie Weinschrott Revilla. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 05 day of December at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.
OCT. 10, 17, 24, 31, 2002

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. CMC02-540475

In the Matter of the Application of Tamara Rose Marie Berry For change of Name. The application of Tamara Rose Marie Berry for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Tamara Rose Marie Berry has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Tamara Rose Marie Broussard. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 09 day of December at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.
OCT. 10, 17, 24, 31, 2002

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO: 236603

The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: Baldoria Restaurant. Located at: 2162 Larkin Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business was conducted by a corporation signed Fabrizio Laudini, president. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: November 30, 1999.
OCT. 10, 17, 24, 31, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 0261322-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Amazing. 5151 Mission Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94112. This business is conducted by co-partners signed Chaoming Guan and Meiling Chen. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on October 02, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 10/02/2002.
OCT. 10, 17, 24, 31, 2002

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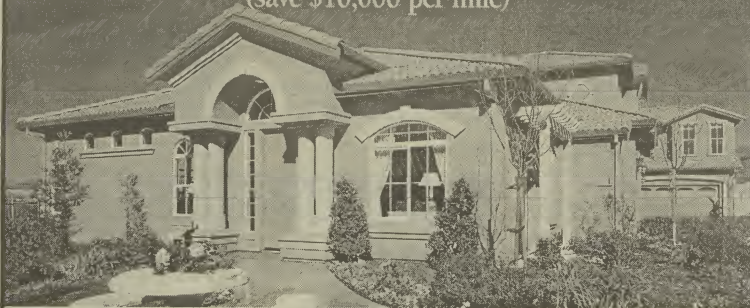
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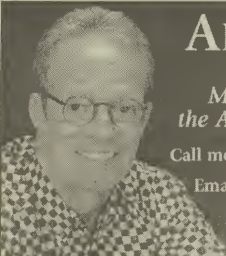
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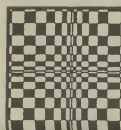
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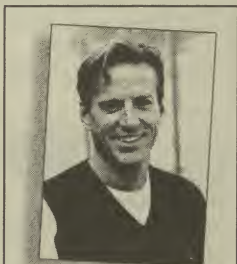
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AIDS Is Far From Over.

In California alone, there are more than 47,000 people living with AIDS,* and another estimated 130,000 living with HIV.** And new infections are once again on the rise, with more than half occurring in communities of color and people under the age of 25. While advances in treatment for those living with HIV and AIDS have enabled them to live longer, this means that there is a greater need for services than ever before.

Proceeds from AIDS/LifeCycle will benefit the L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center and the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, two of the oldest and largest AIDS service organizations in the state that annually provide tens of thousands of people with medical care, counseling, housing and vital educational and preventative programs. Because the beneficiaries have assumed full responsibility for the production of AIDS/LifeCycle, you can be assured that costs will remain under control, thereby maximizing the return of funds for vital AIDS services.

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You'll need to raise a minimum of \$2500 in pledges. But this isn't as daunting as it sounds. Again, we'll be there to help with tips on finding sponsors, setting goals and getting big donations in small installments.

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*CA Department of Health Services, Office of AIDS **Consensus meetings on HIV/AIDS Incidence and Prevalence in California, December 2001



Interview with a 'Bastard Angel'
SF poet Harold Norse recounts a storied life as his memoir is returned to print.
page 39

Bewitched, bedazzled
Her gay manager recalls the late Agnes Moorehead.
page 45



Campus wreck room
Ellis' 'Rules of Attraction' comes to the silver screen.
page 37



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 32 • No. 41 • 10 October 2002



Gays among the Religious Righteous

Arthur Dong's new documentary explores 'Family Fundamentals' by David Lamble

At the beginning of Arthur Dong's new film, *Family Fundamentals*, opening Friday at Opera Plaza, we watch a white-haired grandmother apologize for the clutter in her sun-filled San Diego office. The filmmaker, a one-man crew, pans a small digital camera across a sign that proclaims, "Someone Jesus loves has AIDS."

Kathleen Bremner doesn't actually thump a Bible, but she leaves no doubt about where the Good Book stands regarding the gay "lifestyle." "The Bible says that homosexuality is a sin and it's wrong. And it's a destructive behavior and will not bring happiness. You can't argue with that. That's just the way it is." Later we'll watch Bremner's lesbian daughter, Susan Jester, her grown grandson, David Jester, and his lover stare at the screen with a growing sense of unreality, as Grandma condemns the lives they're living.

Not far away, former Congressman Bob Dornan is guesting on KABC's *Michael Jackson Show* when the host purrs in his dulcet, British-bred tones, "I see you're about to go into Leviticus, you mind if I catch a commercial first?" Following the break, Jackson puts a caller on the air. For a dozen years, Brian Bennett was chief of staff, campaign manager, legislative aide, and all

page 42 ►



Lesbian Susan Jester and her mother, Kathleen Bremner, 1978

Susan Jester Collection

Dance in full force

Ballet Preljocaj, Axis Dance Co. on Bay Area stages

by Michael Wade Simpson

It was quite a weekend for modern dance on our local stages last weekend. While Mark Morris and his band were offering sugar and sequins over in Berkeley, there was more depth-charge and emotional wallop elsewhere, as Axis Dance Company appeared at Alice Arts in Oakland, and the French group Ballet Preljocaj ripped up the space at Yerba Buena. Watching Axis and Preljocaj reminds that the possibilities of modern dance are such that one can connect to movement on a deeply personal, even disturbingly visceral level. It's not that there are no ballet choreographers creating powerful work, it's that the classical form itself is, and always will be, the opposite of down-and-dirty.

Ballet Preljocaj is a group based in Southern France, presenting the works of their director, Angelin Preljocaj. In "Helikopter," they offered

page 34 ►



Company dancers with Ballet Preljocaj

SECOND OF TWO SECTIONS

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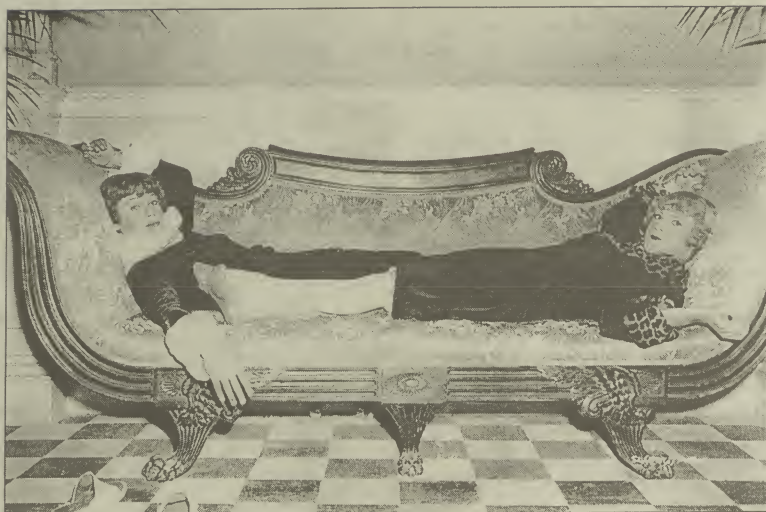
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by Roberto Friedman
and Earl E. Show

It may or may not have been an honest mistake, but the publicists had a ball (or two) with a mishap on live TV last week. The following press release arrived with the attention-getting bulletin, "Penis inadvertently shown on live morning news show! Sales go nuts!"

"Viewers of the KRON 4 live morning show received a literal 'wake up' this morning when the station accidentally shot one of the stars of *Puppetry of the Penis* from the waist down, rather than the waist up. This is believed to be the first time in history that a penis was seen live on morning television.

"Simon Morley and David 'Friendly' Friend were being interviewed by KRON4 Morning News hosts about the upcoming San Francisco engagement of *Puppetry of the Penis* at Theatre on the Square beginning October 29, when the guffaw [sic; probably 'gaffe'] occurred.

"Unfortunately, The Ancient Art was revealed this morning,

and as a result, has demystified the art of genital origami, which is usually reserved for a beautiful theatre such as Theatre on the Square," said Friendly, whose penis was transmitted into more than 150,000 households in the Bay Area at approximately 8:15 a.m. this morning [Oct. 4]. "We never intended to reveal The Art to the viewers at home, and we're very upset that thousands of people saw my penis on live TV, out of context and without my permission."

We happen to have here a copy of Morley and Friend's guide to genital origami, which introduces the tools of the trade (penis, testicles, scrotum: old friends, all),



Create your very own Nessie!

suggests warm-up tricks ("Rub penis vigorously between the palms of both hands"), and gives step-by-step instructions for creating fabulous illusions like the *Eiffel Tower* and the *Loch Ness Monster*. Do try this at home.

Broom service

On a somewhat related topic, a combo of unseemly press attention and prank callers forced the Mattel toy company to admit last week that its *Harry Potter* vibrating broomstick can be used rather successfully as a sex toy. The *New York Post* reported last month that the "Nimbus 2000" is oddly popular with teenage girls. Even precocious teenage boys might take one for a test-drive! Could this possibly be what Potter franchiser J.K. Rowling had in mind when she encouraged kids to pursue an active fantasy life?

Party mix

Department of Great Double Bills: In what we believe will be the first time the two movies have ever shared a bill, SF's Balboa Theatre will show *Billy Wilder's Some Like It Hot* (1959) with *Mel Brooks' The Producers* (1967) for two weeks beginning Friday, Oct. 11. *SLIH*, starring *Tony Curtis, Jack Lemmon* and *Marilyn Monroe*, was dubbed "the funniest American movie ever made" by the American Film Institute. *TP* has comic geni *Zero Mostel* and *Gene Wilder* mounting a production of *Springtime for Hitler*. Sorry, no genital origami or vibrating parts included.

Looks like the Balboa, a Richmond District theatre at 3630 Balboa (at 38th Ave.), is throwing classic films into its mix, a move worth supporting. Info: www.BalboaMovies.com.

Brown study

In *Tina Brown's* new gossip column for the *Times* of London, the former *Talk* editor, over lunch at the Grill Room of the Four Seasons Restaurant in NYC, remembers breaking bread there with many a now-disgraced CEO. She wonders snarkily how many more captains of industry she knows are doomed to public handcuffs and perp walks.

"Today at the next table are a couple of real survivors: *Barry Diller*, the reigning daddy cool of American business, and *Ron Meyer*, the president of Universal Entertainment. Diller always reminds me of the tiger in *The Jungle Book*, draped lethally over a branch with one paw dangling down, ready to swat the next deal in his direction."

Brown describes former Time Warner CEO *Jerry Levin* as "hamsterish." She also reminisces merrily about "a dinner party in our garden in New York last summer, when *Martha Stewart's* chair collapsed and she went flying — head over heels, legs in the air — into the azaleas." Brown hastens to add that Martha took the spill "without dropping her canapé," showing grace even when the bottom fell out. A social skill for our times!

Blonde on blonde

Thumbing through an old *Hollywood Reporter*, we came across the news that none other than director *Charles Herman Wurmfield* is slated to lens *Reese Witherspoon's* latest vehicle, *Legally Blonde 2: Red, White and Blonde*.

The name might ring a bell.

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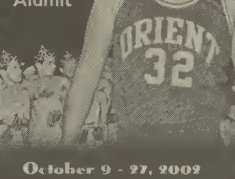
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THEATRE

Real live bohemians

'La Bohème' producer Jeffrey Seller

by Richard Dodds

It was easier to convince the Australian heterosexual Baz Luhrmann that he is a queer artist than the gay New York producer who is putting on Luhrmann's much-anticipated rogue Puccini.

"You know, queer culture feels a lot different here than it does in New York. I think in New York, we've had a greater assimilation," said Jeffrey Seller, producer of the Broadway-bound *La Bohème* at the Curran. "When I hear 'queer,' I just think it has to do with whether you suck dick."

Promised that "queer," in San Francisco at least, can be a compliment, Seller jumped into a discussion of queerness in the arts and Luhrmann's work. Seller, also the producer of *Rent*, was eating a late breakfast recently at the Clift Hotel, after a yoga session on Polk Street.

"Robert Mapplethorpe and Keith Haring, that's where I go with 'queer artist,'" Seller said. But as the conversation continued, he conceded that, "as an artist, Baz probably has more to do with gay artists over the last 100 years than he does with straight ones. He probably has more in common with Vincente Minnelli that he does with Ernest Hemingway."

In addition to Luhrmann's late-'50s take on *La Bohème*, in which reeferers are smoked and leather jackets are the fashion, Luhrmann has shown a queerish eye in such films as *Strictly Ballroom* and *Moulin Rouge*.

"But maybe the word isn't 'queer,'" Seller offered. "Maybe the word is 'fabulous.'"

Seller first encountered Luhrmann's vision of *La Bohème* after a veteran New York producer offered Seller some advice. "It was the fall of '95," said Seller, "and we were preparing to do *Rent*. I got a call from Manny Azenberg, who said he had seen the most beautiful, real, and down-to-earth production of *La Bohème*, on television. He said, 'You gotta make sure your *Rent* cast is as good-looking as those kids I saw on TV in *La Bohème*.'"

After a trip to the videotore, Seller discovered that this *Bohème* was shot from Luhrmann's 1993 production at the Sydney Opera House. "I said, 'Oh, it's that cool *Strictly Ballroom* dude.' I was enthralled, because the guy playing Rodolfo was a cross between Tom Cruise and Mel Gibson, and he had a great voice with swing to it, and it was really moving."

Rent, of course, is the late Jonathan Larson's Pulitzer Prize-winning rock-and-grunge New



Seller in front of the Curran Theatre: 'This isn't Hooked on Classics.'

York variation on Puccini's Parisian bohemia. "I had this crazy idea back then," Seller said, "that wouldn't it be fun if we had *Rent* playing downtown in some alternative-performance space, and we had *La Bohème* running uptown."

It has taken seven years for that idea to become a reality for Seller and producing partner Kevin McCollum. But it was *Rent* that turned out to be the show that arrived first on Broadway, where it will be joined next month when *La Bohème* becomes the new tenant of the spacious Broadway Theatre.

"Some people have said they heard that *Rent* was inspired by Baz's production of *La Bohème*, and none of that is true," Seller said. "What I think is interesting is how bohemian artists on opposite sides of the world were attracted to the same stories, and felt the need to interpret them in a way that had something to do with their contemporary lives."

The real thing

The bet — and it's an expensive one — is that contemporary audiences who aren't much into opera will still go for Puccini à la Luhrmann. "This isn't *Hooked on Classics*," Seller said, "but we hope that by setting it in a contempo-

rary fashion and using singing actors who genuinely look like the people they are playing, we will make it real enough so people will connect with the characters. Hopefully, they'll walk out of the theater feeling like they just saw a great musical."

The biggest expense of making all this happen is in personnel: a cast of 50, an orchestra of 25, and a crew of 20 — not huge by opera standards, but definitely so under Broadway economics. On top of that, because opera singers don't do eight performances a week, there are three sets of principals.

"It's been a little bumpy," Seller said of the early previews at the Curran. "One of the things about having three casts is that all three had to go through the steps of moving from the rehearsal hall to the stage machinery, so that meant we had three-times less time to work out the kinks of how to move those big set pieces around."

Luhrmann's wife, Catherine Martin, heads the design team, as she does on all her husband's projects. (She won two Oscars for *Moulin Rouge*.) Significant production differences from its videotaped predecessor include monochromatic sets based on black-and-white photos of Paris, and a fresh translation from the

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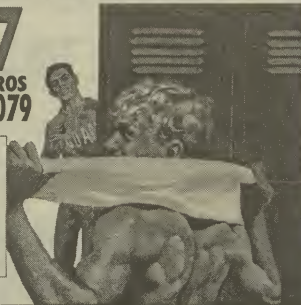
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Adventures in 'Gymnopedies'

Pianist Jean-Yves Thibaudet tackles Satie

by Tim Pfaff

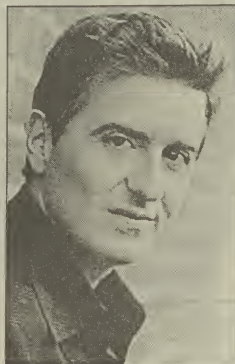
Critics have remorse. Seldom, true, but it's real. Not long ago I wrote about a Satie CD of uncertain origin. I wouldn't change a word of what little I said about it, but by the time a printed copy of my review reached me, by albatross, Decca had come out with *The Magic of Satie*, unquestionably the best Satie recording ever, and one whose title is more than sly marketing. It's both transporting and charming, music that seems to have been written for the pianist, Jean-Yves Thibaudet.



At a SF Jazz Festival a few years back, the year Thibaudet came out with his brilliant Bill Evans CD, he played a concert of Evans transcriptions interspersed with music he was convinced had influenced the brilliant jazz pianist. Among them were a few of Satie's seven *Gnossiennes* (even the French-born Thibaudet admitted he had no clear idea what the word really meant), short, spare, almost vaporous pieces that pack a significant emotional wallop. The most hardcore of the jazz aficionados in Herbst Hall, challenged both by the presence of this exotic gay pianist and by his repertoire, simply melted.

Sagely, Thibaudet opens with the most familiar Satie piece, the first *Gymnopédie*, which seems to have inspired every fourth piece of new choreography since its composition in 1888. And he spreads the other *Gymnopedies* throughout this lavishly varied offering at regular enough intervals to keep listeners oriented.

Many will be happy enough with the make-out (OK, atmospheric) music of the *Gymnopedies* and *Gnossiennes* that make up the CD's first eight tracks. Thibaudet plays them with such an exquisite touch and rarefied sense of color that the music seems both to hover in space and to dance at the same time. If you're insusceptible to the allures of "Fourth Gnossi-



Thibaudet: astonishing brio.

enne," which sounds like a Bach prelude as rewritten by Albeniz and played by Alfred Cortot on his third snifter of absinthe, you might consider signing up for the foot-soldier units of the imminent attack on Baghdad.

But sturdier souls with deeper interests in this eccentric composer's output will be rewarded by music at once gnomic and rarely beguiling. (For Satie fanatics, there is a handful of first recordings in the mix.) There are several larger pieces and an array of "program" works like "The Dreamy Fish" and "The Angora Ox" that find both composer and pianist at their most pictorial and narrative. There is a wild inspiration behind these works of contortionist imagination, and Thibaudet nails both idiom and genre, imbuing each highly individualized piece with playing of astonishing brio and wizardry.

Hairpin turns

Music every bit as unique and, let's say it, weird as Satie's makes up another of the best piano recordings of the year, Deutsche Grammophon's *Sonatas and Rondos* by Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach. Mikhail Pletnev, the sometimes-pianist, sometimes-conductor whose specialty is brilliance, has compiled a fine selection of the keyboard music of old J.S. Bach's most brilliant son, and he plays it, on a modern piano, in a way that isn't just idiomatic, it mines every rich vein of this protean but always coruscating fare.

From the opening G-minor Sonata, Pletnev's virtuosity is unquestioned, but at its most extravagant, it never seems self-serving. This is music that deliberately

changes mood and expression (the word then was affect) at the speed of light, which Pletnev seems merely to relish. And because there's nothing in it he cannot manage, and with relative ease at that, he's able to lend the pieces a feeling of the internal cohesion that, behind the hairpin turns, makes it work — and makes its flagrant exhibitionism artistically satisfying. This music has long awaited proper exposure, but realization as fine as this would have been too much to expect — until, *voilà*, it appeared.

More seldom-heard music appears on Leif Ove Andsnes' EMI CD of Edvard Grieg's *Lyric Pieces*, offered with the added enticement of their being performed on Grieg's own piano, an 1892 Steinway at his Norwegian home. Oddly, recordings made on composers' pianos seldom seem to work, and this one is no exception. The piano, for starters, does not have a particularly beautiful sound, Andsnes' claims of its being perfectly apt for the music notwithstanding.

While Andsnes' star continues its steady rise in the piano firmament, despite its consistent excellence and maturity, I find it lacking in individuality. And while the Norwegian pianist is the obvious choice for this music, I suspect few listeners will have the patience to take it all in one gulp. The strongest thing I can say about this CD is that it's keeping me away from the pianist's new CD of Schubert's penultimate sonata (I'll eat crow later, as stated above, if necessary), despite the added enticement of a half-dozen Schubert songs performed by Andsnes and Ian Bostridge, one of my current demigods.

If it's individuality in piano-playing you're looking for, look no farther than jazz pianist Brad Mehldau, whose every new release, like Patricia Barber's, sounds like it's from a new musician — because so much musical growth has gone on since the last one. His latest, *Largo* (Warner Brothers), left me in dizzying incomprehension on first hearing, but eager to get a bead on where's he's arrived these days. Both the pianist and his band have never sounded this adventurous before, which is saying a lot. It took about four more spins to get with it, but now I just can't stop listening, and the music follows me around when it's not "on the box." Haunting should always be so welcome an experience. ▼

La Boheme

◀ previous page

sung Italian into '50s vernacular, presented via subtitles.

More significant, perhaps, is the inevitable shift in tone reflecting the roads traveled by its creators since their first *Boheme* in 1990. "I'll be turning 40 while I'm in San Francisco," Luhrmann said in an earlier interview, "and so to me, it's now about saying goodbye and handing it on to a new generation."

"One of the things I'm so moved by," Seller added to Luhrmann's thoughts, "is how this production is so much about loss,

the loss of youth and having to grow up. I even see references to *Peter Pan* in it."

Seller, who turns 38 during *Boheme*'s SF run, doesn't seem to have the same rueful vision of the passing of the bohemia of youth. "I'm a gay man with a lover who lives a very married life, and who's about to adopt a baby," he said. "I lead a very conventional life."

Still, "conventional life" probably does not mean two-daddy households to most of the folks Seller grew up with in a Detroit suburb. In past interviews, he has said that he was sometimes embarrassed by his family's financial struggles, but blessed them at the same time for finding funds for

theatrical outings to the big city.

"My 20th high school reunion is coming up," Seller said, "and when you reach those milestones, you look back and ask, what have you done in your life? And I realized I've done a lot of great things. But the thing I really want to do now is raise kids. I know what having a hit show feels like, and it feels good, but I don't imagine that when I'm in my 50s, I'm still going to be chasing the next Broadway hit." ▼

La Boheme will run at the Curran Theatre through Nov. 10. Tickets are \$40-\$90. Call 512-7770.

MUSIC

Taking it on the road

SF Symphony brings Mahler 3rd on tour

by Philip Campbell

Michael Tilson Thomas and the San Francisco Symphony have embarked on their East Coast tour this week. They will perform four concerts in New York City, Long Island, and Washington, DC. The tour begins with two concerts in Carnegie Hall. Unsurprisingly, Right Coasters are hearing works recently featured at Davies Hall.

Considering the ambitious nature of the programming, we can hardly fault them for wanting to dry-run the repertoire with local loyalists. The more rehearsal the better when it comes to massive scores like Mahler's Symphony No. 3. Bartok's "Music for Strings, Percussion and Celesta" is no walk in the park, either.

The tour features composers well-identified with MTT, including American Carl Ruggles. His aptly named "Evocations" opens every bill except the Mahler. It is a remarkable piece, beautifully executed here by the orchestra in September. Still, I can't help thinking the maestro's own "Urban Legend," which premiered last week, might have substituted on the tour nicely, at least once.

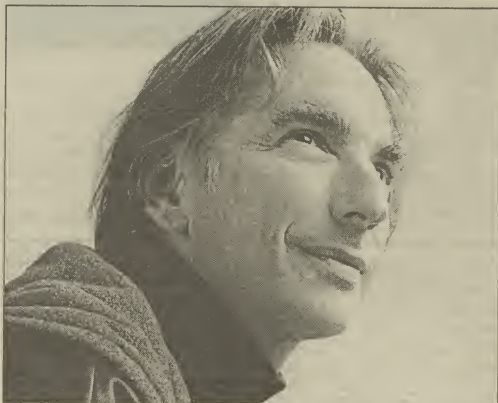
Written expressly for SFS contrabassist Steven Braunstein, the highly enjoyable and succinct new work not only showcases an amazingly accomplished performer, but also proves our conductor is moving along nicely with his "fledgling" composing career. Written for an orchestra similar to that of Bartok's "Music for Strings, Percussion and Celesta," "Urban Legend" allows Tilson Thomas to seat the players in the same formation. That saves time between pieces and highlights their complementary nature.

Braunstein asked for, and got, some "seriously aggressive music (à la baritone sax)." Like Bartok's "night music," "Urban Legend" is nocturnal, a slithery, intriguing journey by a creature of the dark through an industrial cityscape. There is complex harmony throughout, tonal and atonal, even a trip in and out of a 12-tone row.

The opening pages bring to mind the jazzy dance-writing of Leonard Bernstein, but, while there are some echoes of Latin music, this is not a West Side story. The mood is often tense and a little confrontational between soloist (animal) and strings (humans). As musical expressionism, the score is still immediately accessible, and the brief, wry conclusion brings a smile. MTT continues to write relatively brief works, but "Urban Legend," despite the ironic title, is a serious move towards bigger statements.

Braunstein essayed the lead with a virtuosity that made the incredibly difficult part appear almost easy. The contrabassoon rarely gets a chance centerstage, but MTT has given his soloist a 15-minute tone poem that deserves wider currency.

The program included the Bartok and *Ein Heldenleben* by Richard Strauss, which is also going on the road, another chance for Concertmaster Alexander Barantschik to play the fabulous Guarnerius violin on loan from the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco. It's doubtful that Barantschik is packing the former violin of Heifetz for Manhattan.



Music Director Michael Tilson Thomas premiered his 'Urban Legend.'

The current rigors of air travel would create a security nightmare, but MTT's chosen First Chair will do just fine with a less legendary instrument.

Third place

The previous week at Davies was a combination dress rehearsal and recording session, a monumental interpretation of Mahler's longest and arguably densest symphony. The results, patched from several performances for the new disc, should prove a revelation for listeners who thought MTT had reached some conclusions about the Third.

Most conductors bring the piece in at approximately an hour and 40 minutes. That is a lot of music without an intermission, but Tilson Thomas reached the two-hour mark. Amazingly enough, the sheer length of the evening rarely was tedious. That is not to say that it was completely acceptable. Beginnings and endings of movements were as thrilling as Acts in a Wagner opera, but there were moments of almost excruciating slowness.

Sections of the orchestra played raggedly at times, and Glenn Fitch's offstage trumpet solo was sublime in expression, but imperfectly rendered. Mistakes like this will not be evident on the recording. Home listeners will also adjust to the slow tempos by giving themselves a break. The real surprise of the performance was MTT's daring willingness to take a go-for-broke approach so close to the tour.

The grandeur of his intensity, never merely theatrical, paid off in the extended concluding Adagio. This was music-making that picked you up and took you to an exalted place. By the time we came back to earth, we knew we had been somewhere. I glanced at the refined older gentleman who had been sitting next to me all evening, and we exchanged the kind of look that people share after a long and meaningful journey.

Mezzo-soprano Michelle De-Young (fast becoming a Mahler regular with MTT) coped resplendently with the arduous tempos. With that magnificent mane of hair and beautiful voice, she will set Carnegie Hall ablaze. The contributions from the Women of the SFS Chorus, the Pacific Boychoir and the San Francisco Girls Chorus set the seal on an important event.

The New York critics may also quibble with MTT's long-winded approach, but they will surely sense

his ecstatic dedication and honest attempt to bring deeper understanding to Mahler's vision. ▼

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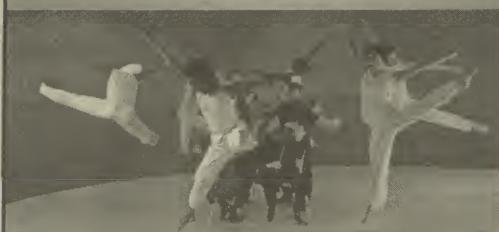
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Early music virtuosos

by Jason Serinus

Unam Ceylum – Heinrich Biber
John Holloway, violin; Aloysia Assenbaum, organ; Lars Ulrik Mortensen, harpsichord
(ECM New Series)

Notable for their virtuosic demands and sudden changes of mood and tempo, Heinrich Biber's eight violin sonatas of 1681 are considered the most forward-looking violin sonatas since those of Bach, Vercini and Schmelzer. Biber was one of the greatest violin virtuosos of the 17th century, who wrote music that showcased his astounding playing technique. His music covers the entire range of notes available to violins of the period, offering all the possibilities for double-stopping and three- and four-note chord playing. What violinist Holloway justly terms Biber's "dazzling" effects amount to a textbook of 17th-century violin technique.

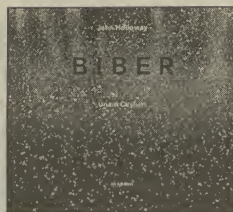
Only in the hands of musicians who combine absolute technical mastery with abundant freedom of self-expression can the excitement and breadth of this music be fully expressed. Happily, the three ECM artists featured on this disc are more than up to the task. Violinist John Holloway founded the Baroque ensemble *L'Ecole d'Orphée* in 1975, which made the first complete recording of Handel's instrumental chamber music on baroque instruments. Recipient of the 1991 Gramophone award for

his recordings of Biber's *Mystery Sonatas*, he currently directs the Indianapolis Baroque Orchestra and is Professor of Violin and String Chamber-Music at the Hochschule für Musik in Dresden, Germany. His intensity and virtuosity bring to mind that of early-music violinists Andrew Manze and Giuliano Carmignola, which says a lot.

Harpsichordist Lars Ulrik Mortensen received the Danish Music Critics Award in 1984; his three CDs of harpsichord music

by Buxtehude earned him the title of Danish Musician of the Year 2000; and he received the 2001 Cannes Classical Award. Organist and composer Aloysia Assenbaum, married to Holloway, is former Head of the Music Conservatoire in Winterthur, Switzerland, where her series of *Portraits of Women Composers* earned her the 1995 Equal Rights Prize in Zurich.

The recording at hand features four of Biber's eight Violin Sonatas of 1681, and two unpublished sonatas. A second disc of



the remaining sonatas of 1681 is slated for future release.

Produced by Manfred Eicher, Grammy's most deserving 2001 Classical Producer of the Year, the disc offers ECM's accustomed atmospheric acoustic. In place of the intimate environment most

conducive to this music, we hear a resonance that makes three instruments sound like the Choir of Westminster Cathedral. Nonetheless, the brilliance of the playing and the breadth of compositional mastery emerge in spades.

The San Francisco Early Music Society brings Holloway and ensemble to Palo Alto's First Lutheran Church Oct. 11, Berkeley's St. John's Presbyterian Church Oct. 12, and SF's St. Gregory's Episcopal Church Oct. 13. Information: (510) 528-1725 or www.sfems.org ▼

Preljocaj/Axis

◀ Arts cover

a dance that was as relentless as the hellish score by Karlheinz Stockhausen. A computer-generated grid of light was painted on the floor, and as the sound of jet engines began revving up, dancers entered and began a series of quick-changing athletic phrases that satisfied mostly on an intellectual level. The laser floorlights were reactive to the movement, and this effect, the constantly changing grid and pattern on the floor, both echoed and represented what was going on choreographically. Just like a work by Merce Cunningham (with whom the choreographer studied in New York), watching the dance and listening to the sound-score was a lot like getting through a biochemistry lecture. Interesting, boring, inhumane.

In "Rite of Spring," however, Preljocaj made unforgettable use

of Stravinsky's intense score. His work seemed to illustrate, in the way dancers can move today, what the brutal intention of the composer was in 1913. The moveable set-pieces and lighting created theatrical imagery that was complementary to the harsh and crazed qualities of the music. The opening image, the women reaching under their skirts and sliding down their panties, was striking foreshadowing of the sexual mayhem about to occur. We are all animals, and Preljocaj was brilliant at using wild unisons and violent partnering in this paean to the essence of fucking.

Defying the odds

Axis is a dance company composed of dancers with and without disabilities. All dance is a dance of limitations. The goal in ballet is to defy gravity, which is, of course, impossible. Axis defies other odds. There are dancers in electric wheelchairs, dancers with



Axis Dance Company members Judith Smith and Jacques Poulin Denis.

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one leg, a dancer with a crutch, and another with a prosthetic foot. Still, the goal is beauty, expression, use of space, and movement to music; and one soon respects the intelligence behind this group, which neither hides its gimmick nor avoids it. Artistry is achieved in the way the space is filled, the story told, in new ideas, and in the performances. In all these regards, and in spite of our expectations, Axis succeeds as entirely equal-opportunity art.

The first musical note in many pieces is like an oboe striking the tuning pitch for the orchestra, until you realize that this is the voice of the electric wheelchair, and the dancers are finding their places in the dark. The chair-bound dancers are hardly able to articulate even their arms and heads (many of the dancers were athletes and performers who lost their mobility as a result of automobile accidents), but they are masterly at steering their vehicles, and it becomes fascinating to see the possibilities of not only their fluid circles and crossovers, but also their contrasts, on a stage filled with dancers, as the moving chairs become active partners, symbols, and obstacles.

In his "Secret Ponies," big-time choreographer Stephen Petronio

floundered a bit. His talents as a creator of nonstop, all-out, high-velocity dance with urban edge seemed somewhat diffused, uncomfortable, an honest reaction from a dancer unused to the alternative possibilities of this special group. Other choreographers made lyrical use of these possibilities, but to no great impact. It was Sonya Delwaide's choreography, from the opening image, that caused you to sit up, feel the music, and watch a dynamic voyage toward an emotional hue that none of the other pieces came close to.

"Sans Instruments," Delwaide's piece, featured a live performance by the wonderful vocal ensemble SoVoSó. Delwaide's dance had edge and life to it, her gestures were fresh, and she was able to harness the strengths of these performers. Suddenly, the company looked world-class. The piece had kinetic excitement, great lighting, soul-based voices communicating real passion, and the theatrical progression to catharsis. After a frenzied all-company passage, the piece narrowed to a duet in which two disabled dancers removed their aides (his prosthetic foot, her crutch) and, in a pool of light, came together.

What is love? ▼

DANCE

Believing in Mark Morris

Mark Morris Group prevails in Berkeley

by Stephanie von Buchau

It's no secret that I've had a major crush on dancer Mark Morris since the mid-1980s. But when he passed 40, cut his hair, gained a paunch, and began to look dissolute (I could see him as a member of the Regency's Hell Fire Club), I had a crisis of faith. I asked *New Yorker* dance critic and Morris biographer Joan Acocella what to do about it, and she said, "Well, if it comes to a choice between watching Mark dance out of shape, or not watching Mark dance at all..."

Of course she was right, because, out of shape or not, Morris is still one of the most magnificent modern dancers on the planet. It's just that you don't slaver over those muscular thighs, drool at the tangled, shoulder-length locks, or swoon over that Irish aristocrat profile and blue-green eyes. Now you watch the eloquent shoulders and arms, the amazing balances — everybody else is wobbling slightly, but Morris is arrogantly stock-still on one leg — the really snotty way he tosses his head. He's a pistol.

People don't talk much about Morris dancing any more, because they usually have so much to say about his choreography. I'm approaching his recent Mark Morris Dance Group's appearance at Cal Performances (UC Berkeley's Zellerbach Hall) from the dancer's viewpoint because the best piece on the program was tailored for Morris and his longtime, now quasi-retired dance companion, Guillermo Resto. The steps are pure Morris; the music is a choice amazing yet completely logical. The costumes are funny, and the "Yes, Virginia, another piano ballet" spoof is gentle and witty.

Called "Foursome," this 2002 dance calls for Mark and Guillermo to share the stage with two of the company's handsome young bucks, Shawn Gannon and John Heginbotham. They are terrific, but in this company they look just a little gauche and unformed. That may be part of the point — that no matter how brightly talented they are, the younger generation must learn *gravitas* from its elders.

The music is Erik Satie's *Trois Gnossiennes*, which makes perfect sense, since they have a remote, Classical Greek ethos, and

Morris had all that Balkan dance experience when he was younger. Then he adds *Seven Hungarian Dances* by Johann Nepomuk Hummel, Mozart's contemporary; astonishingly, especially as played onstage by Sara Davis Buechner, you almost can't tell the two composers apart.

Heavy breathing

So the piece is musically seamless and emotionally charged, full of both nuance and heavy breathing, only you might not realize it until later. The Berkeley audience thought much of "Foursome" was hilarious, especially when Resto and Heginbotham came forward together, upstaging each other with eloquent gestures: "Look at this." "No, look at that."

Exquisite, but not that funny. Then Morris and Resto did something similar, only not so broad. That got laughs, too, but I was near to tears. Morris, of course, is openly gay, though to my knowledge he's never made a dance that was *smuinn*ly graphic about it. His relationships between dancers usually seem to be about love rather than sex, though that doesn't make them any less moving or emotionally powerful. A dozen Michael Smuin onstage rapes are not as intense as Resto momentarily laying his head on Morris' shoulder. As Joseph Conrad put it, "Ah, the humanity."

Whatever. I loved this piece, and that was a good thing because Morris' world premiere, "Something Lies Beyond the Scene," completely baffled me. Set to sections of William Walton's cabaret jape "Facade" (poems by Edith Sitwell), it was obviously made as a tribute to the Walton centenary this year. I imagine that Morris was also spurred competitively by the fact that Sir Frederick Ashton had set the piece 70 years ago. The Ashton is a triumph, but I'm not quite sure about Morris' version.

The problem for me was not the choreography, which I'll sort out after a couple of viewings, but the musical presentation. The jokey, jazzy score calls for winds, cello and percussion (members of the Berkeley Symphony, smartly led by Robert Cole) and a pair of reciters. Morris uses four, and they are members of his company. They inflect

the lines musically and seem quite attuned to Sitwell's musical poetry, but I couldn't understand one in 10 words, and I know this score pretty well.

You might say, what difference does that make, he's setting what amounts to nonsense syllables, but the goofy meanings are actually part of the music. To only be able to catch an occasional word shortchanges the composer, the poet and, oddly enough, the choreographer. How many viewers, for instance, got that the penultimate song is about Switzerland? If not, they might have had a problem accessing the choreography.

The most memorable number was the languorously swaying elephant (made up of half-a-dozen dancers) in "Lullaby for Jumbo." In that case, all you had to know was the song title.

The other new piece was "Resurrection" (2002), set to Richard Rodgers' "Slaughter on Tenth Avenue." This rich spoof of Balanchine, gangster flicks and Busby Berkeley boasts witty costumes by Isaac Mizrahi, sort of penitentiary pajamas. It starts slowly, and the central couple dies in gunfire — she at the very beginning, he at the end. But then they are reunited ("resurrection") as the corps lifts them overhead for a wet smooch. So Mark Morris, so hip, and yet so swooningly romantic. Face it, possums, I still love the guy. ▼



Mark Morris Dance Group members in the rich spoof "Resurrection."

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Situation tragedy

by Victoria A. Brownworth

We were out driving the other day and saw a bumper sticker which perfectly encapsulated our response to recent events. It read: "Where am I going, and why am I in this handbasket?" But enough about Iraq, let's talk sitcoms.

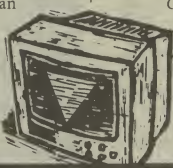
Are we alone in thinking *Will & Grace* may have lost its edge? The first two episodes of the new season have been a tad underwhelming. Karen (Megan Mullaly, funniest woman on TV) and Jack (Sean Hayes) still steal every scene, and Laura Kightlinger, stand-up comic and *W&G* head writer, has had some hilarious bits as the nurse helping in Grace's insemination with Will's baby. Will (Eric McCormack) and Grace (Debra Messing) are still excellent "straight" men to their more comedic compatriots, but the in-

roduction of Harry Connick, Jr. as the doctor pursuing Grace, and more star turns (this week it was Kevin Bacon) don't add to the general tenor of the show. And we can't help feeling that Will & Grace having a baby together is just more cute than anything else and will thoroughly impede Will ever having a gay relationship on screen. We love this show and all its Emmy-winning and Emmy-nominated stars. We'd hate to see it go the way of *Ellen* by trying to be the queer version of *Friends*. Tune in tonight to see if three's the charm.

Speaking of *Friends* — oh, let's not. But we do love that the alleged 20-something Phoebe's portrayer, Lisa Kudrow, just had her 39th birthday. Even the kids on *Daw-*

son's *Creek* got to go to college.

The less said about *Good Morning, Miami*, starring the marvelous Suzanne Pleshette and created by the *W&G* team, the better. A dumb premise and an even dumber show. Instead of



Lavender Tube

GMM, tune into ABC's *Life with Bonnie*, starring Bonnie Hunt. She's fabulous, and her retinue ain't bad, either. And may we just say, for the record, everyone *doesn't* love Raymond.

Would there were something

fabulously funny to recommend, but it's a bad season for humor, apparently. And not so great a season for drama, either, unless you count what's happening inside the Beltway. We have caught two episodes of CBS's *Without a Trace* and can now officially never watch it again ever. Except for the dreamy Anthony LaPaglia and some nice editing techniques, this show is like most CBS shows: it never gets going. Ditto *Hack* and *Robbery Homicide Division*. Three too many cop shows with characters and situations we couldn't care less about.

Period piece

For the next six Sundays, those who love a good period drama must tune into PBS for the remade *Forsythe Saga* on Masterpiece Theatre. If you are old enough to remember the first version (we are not), you will love the newer, steamier version of *Dynasty* meets Victorian England. Sexy, sexy, sexy, *The Forsythe Saga* peels back the covers on the era of covered piano legs.

Speaking of piano legs, we have never seen such fabulous shoes in our lives as those worn by Katie Couric on *Today*, which are enough to give Imelda Marcos the

big O. Not only is Couric the most underrated reporter and interviewer on TV news, but she is always impeccably attired. We were watching her grill her friend Rosie O'Donnell last Friday and kept comparing Rosie's comfy Doc Martins to Katie's foot-binding specials. We could barely focus on the interview, the contrast was so *Wizard of Oz*.

Even though we think Caroline Rhea is doing a spectacular job of filling Rosie's comfortable shoes — she actually had the Village People on last week: older, leaner and a tad more wrinkled, but still just so incredibly gay — we still miss Rosie.

And why did it take Boy George dissing her looks (she's now producing him in Charles Busch's *Taboo* on Broadway) to get Miz O'Donnell to spruce herself up? She looks fantastic. Good makeup, a chic new 'do (well, chic for the '80s, but still looks good), better-looking loungewear. Too bad she's in the midst of a total catfight.

Nice to see Tom Daschle finally get his dander up, too. Now if the Congress could just get it together that kneejerk patriotism looks suspiciously like nationalism when warmongering is involved. How much more simply can we draw this picture? Initiating a war with Iraq breaks all rules of international law, laws we helped put in place back in the days of Woodrow Wilson (a President with brains) and Franklin Roosevelt (a President with brains and vision). This isn't the 17th century. Our job is to make peace in the world, not instigate Armageddon.

The Democratic wusses in Congress better wake up and smell the jingoism before it's too late. With only a few weeks till the midterm elections and New Jersey now anyone's game, their tenuous one-vote hold over the Senate could slip away in a nanosecond. They should tune into TV from other parts of the world. Europe is disgusted with us; Britain (not Tony Blair, who's had some kind of brain transplant, which is what he gets for going to Texas) reviles us nightly on their newscasts; and Russia can now actually take the moral high-ground with us, which none of us should ever have

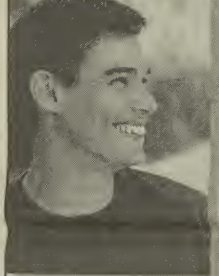
lived to see. And can we say, bombing and strafing another Arab nation is not going to make Islamist extremists like us more. Did we mention Armageddon?

Speaking of Islamist extremists, Nigeria is still scheduled to execute that 31-year-old mother of three who was raped two years ago and thus had a child out of wedlock, against Islamic law in that country. She is due to be stoned to death in a few weeks. (She'll be buried up to her head and then rocks will be hurled at her till she dies. Most stonings take about two hours to knock the person utterly unconscious. It can take up to two weeks for them to actually die.) Bill Clinton has been among those negotiating for her pardon.

In an execrable show of sexist bad taste, Craig Kilborn, host of *The Late Night Show*, ran a little news clip last week of Miss World 1998 and feminist attorney Gloria Allred. Both were protesting the decision to hold the Miss World competition in Nigeria this month because of the upcoming execution. Kilborn showed each woman saying very important things about the issue while digitized thought balloons ran above their heads. Allred's had dollar signs, Miss World's had shoes and poodles. Soooo not funny.

Finally, the flurry over last week's Miss America pageant came and went in the midst of Iraqgate, but we would like to commemorate the most amazing moment we've seen in a Miss America pageant since the first black and first deaf Misses were crowned. As if it were not impressive enough that three of the five finalists were women of color, the winner was both black and a student at Harvard Law School. One of the runners-up, the Latino Miss Nevada, Teresa Benitez, did a theatrical rendition for her talent competition. She rendered the victim-impact speech Matthew Shepard's father gave in court. We were blown away by both her impassioned rendering and her amazing guts. She didn't win the crown, but she won our hearts. Memo to the Beltway: This is how it's done, boys. One person stands up and does something idealistic and gutsy, even if it means they might not win the brass ring. Try it sometime. ▼

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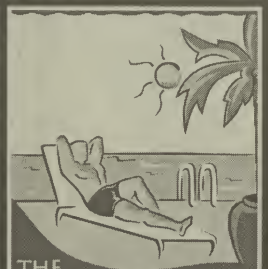
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Playing by 'The Rules of Attraction'

by David Lambie

Our bargain with this new film about teens behaving badly is sealed with a kiss between two boys. It helps that the kiss comes early in a story where little that happens is necessarily what it appears to be. But a kiss is still a kiss, even if it didn't really happen.

Bret Easton Ellis wrote *The Rules of Attraction* while attending Bennington. In the novel, a half-dozen or more obsessed characters take turns giving the reader their unreliable stream of consciousness versions of what they're thinking, who they're screwing, and on what combination of bad drugs this is happening. The book opens and closes on a sentence fragment, as if it had all just been downloaded from a TiVo on Mars, and in the first paragraph the narrator of unidentified gender rants on about a really cute young man, "a drama major, [who's] only a little gay."

That the word gay appears on the first page of a book that would be a crossover bestseller shows that Ellis has talent and guts. Even 15 years later, director Roger Avary, who claims to be fucking with the teen-pic genre, isn't quite so bold with the queer situations. Shot in a jokey surrealism that winks at Tarantino, *The Rules of Attraction* begins at The Dressed To Get Screwed party. Fittingly, we observe a young coed getting plundered by one or more attractive guys while a beer keg is rolled into the room and quickly out again, as if the film were reversing itself and warning us about putting too much faith in anything we may see for the next 100 minutes.

Rules is the story of queer undergrad Paul Denton (Ian Somerhalder, whom some may recall as the doe-eyed son of a prep school dean who's smitten by an androgynous "biker boy" on *The Young Americans*, a Coca Cola-backed *Dawson's Creek* spinoff), who has a book-length affair with drama student and campus cocaine dealer Sean Bateman (James Van Der Beek, *Dawson of Dawson's Creek*), who in turn is pursuing the elusive and slightly dykey Lauren (Shannyn Sossamon), who could care less. Paul muses, as he seeks to bed Sean for the first time, "I wondered suddenly if he was Catholic. My spirits rose: Catholic boys will usually do anything."

Head games

Avary, who penned the adapted screenplay, leaves us with the



James Van Der Beek and Clifton Collins Jr. in *The Rules of Attraction*.

impression that aside from the kiss, the affair exists mostly in Paul's head, while Van Der Beek and Somerhalder say there was no tongue but plenty of friction in their dorm-room smooch. Avary claims to be haunted by a preview-screening comment accusing him of having made "a half-fag film." Ironically, it might be just what Ellis, who in interviews has hopped in and out of the closet, intended all along.

The non-fag half has plenty to say for itself, including a haunting suicide and a pranky drug overdose hilariously attended to by an emergency room doctor (a neat cameo by Paul Williams) with a grisly sense of humor: "It's toe-tag time in Teenville."

With a film populated by an insanely gorgeous cast (at least half of whom are graduates of The Royal Academy at the WB), you don't expect to find adult characters, but there is a very funny scene in which two college moms (smartly played by Faye Dunaway and Swizzle Kurtz) duel their bratty, overprivileged sons over

the proper public use of the nickname, "Dick."

Anyone who hesitates to catch *Rules* because of James Van Der Beek should be assured that the now 25-year-old actor has finally shed his image as squeaky clean and righteous teen Dawson Leary. Dawson was supposed to be an idealized version of what a teenage boy should be, complete with bangs, perfect hair days, a million dollars worth of casual dress clothes, and a perky, pernickety attitude that no amount of hard knocks could defeat. Van Der Beek's portrayal of Sean Bateman (in an Ellis in-joke, Sean is the younger brother of *American Psycho*'s ax-wielding Patrick) carries a lean-and-hungry, burned-out look, very bad manners, and a tendency to welch on his debts. In a film where lines like "she has dick-sucking lips" are flying around the room, Van Der Beek gives Sean the right balance of cool-boy-going-to-seed competing with a lunatic sense of danger that culminates in a nicely comic botched suicide attempt. We're not in Cape-side anymore. Opens Friday. ▽

Out There

◀ page 30

Chaz was the hell-mer of the film *Fanci's Persuasion*, that cult stinker (we mean sleeper) of yesteryear starring Ms. **Justin Bond**. We hope he casts Bond in his big new Hollywood oinker. She'd be perfect as Reese's (younger) evil twin sister!

Dish patrol

Show biz and music royalty turned out for solo performer **Reno's** last night at Brava Theatre last month. **Lily Tomlin** was there with her partner **Jane Wagner**, as was **Joan Baez**, who was accompanied by "a rather large female companion," according to a

flyboy on the wall. "Baez looked gorgeous."

When the pre-show music piped in **Bob Dylan's** "Gotta Serve Somebody," Baez (Dylan's former squeeze) and her living-large friend "started giggling like school-girls. Sounded like Joanie was in a heavy dish mode. I was craning my neck to get some dish for you, but they were in such a twitter, I couldn't make out what they said. Sorry." Flyboy gets 10 points for attempted eavesdropping.

When it was announced that they were in the audience, Lily waved Joanie over to sit in her section. She's so outgoing! Apparently, celebs who flock together rock out together. Isn't it about time for Baez to play to a raucous house of SF queens?

Shift happens

Editor's notes: Due to unfolding world events, former UNSCOM weapons inspector **Scott Ritter**, scheduled at the Roxie Cinema for a Q&A after his film *In Shifting Sands*, has had to cancel his appearances, previously announced for this weekend. Perhaps they can get songbird **Thelma Ritter** to substitute.

The photo of artist **Rene Capone** that accompanied last week's feature on gays and lesbians participating in SF's Open Studios should have been credited to **Jarred Webster**, a wonderful photographer who works at the photo store at the corner of 18th and Castro. We regret the omission. ▽

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Murder, mayhem, and hilarity

'Going Down for the Count'

by Tavo Amador

Fans of the late Joe Keenan's laugh-out-loud novels *Blue Heaven* and *Puttin' on the Ritz*, and mystery buffs who enjoy a fast-paced, highly amusing if improbable yarn, should rush to their favorite bookstore for a copy of David Stukas' *Going Down for the Count* (Kensington, \$23). Stukas' follow-up to *Someone Killed His Boyfriend* features the same lead characters: Robert Willson, his best friend Monette O'Reilly, a 6-foot-tall lesbian, and his perpetually horny and whoring pal Michael Stark, the handsome heir to a herpes-ointment fortune.

Robert, who is the narrator, announces the murder of his new lover, German Count Siegfried von Schmidt, on Page 2, right after he explains how none of his friends could believe that this good-looking and rich aristocrat had fallen in love with him. The reader enjoys a long flashback in which Robert recalls how he met, was wooed, and settled down with the Count at his ancestral home in Berlin, forsaking Manhattan for the pleasures of Europe.

The romantic Siegfried seems too good to be true, yet each time Robert's suspicions are aroused about his intentions or his feelings, they are convincingly allayed. The count insists he wants a committed and monogamous relationship, and decides that Robert is the one for him because he has a genuinely romantic nature and, unlike Michael, does not seduce every attractive gay male under 40 who happens to walk into his New York orbit. To Robert's incredulous delight, the Count can't have enough sex with him. Robert is also thrilled that for once Michael, whose own natural beauty and buffed body have been enhanced by every surgical and chemical procedure available to someone with unlimited funds, is unable to get the man of his dreams away from him.

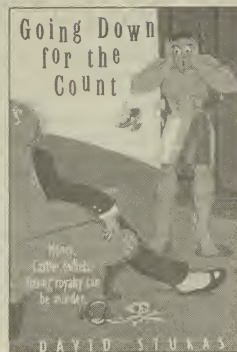
Mad queens

After we get to the actual murder, which takes place at a costume ball given by Siegfried's friend, Mad Queen Ludwig, a direct

descendant and namesake of the Mad Bavarian King, the gay monarch obsessed with Wagner, the laughs escalate furiously. Clues to the killing are provided by a psychic, Madame Lola, who claims to communicate with the dead, and whose first line, addressed to her husband, is, "Tell Marlene Dietrich she smells like a fish." The session with the tipsy Lola helps Monette figure out who killed the Count. Because Monette saw the policeman assigned to the case, Herr Tauscher, at Ludwig's party—in drag and doing things with another man that Frau Tauscher would not condone—she is able to work far more closely with the official investigation than would otherwise be the case.

Stukas has a great gift for fast-paced, funny dialogue, laced with memorable similes: "I cackled like I imagine Bette Davis did when she read Joan Crawford's obituary in *The New York Times*." Or: "About as much chance as Geena Davis being named Best Dressed Woman at the Academy Awards." His prose is light, and he keeps the story moving so swiftly that the reader barely pays attention to the far-fetched plot—or even cares, for that matter, because the goings-on are so funny.

He does a wonderful job taking stereotypes like Michael, Mad Queen Ludwig, and Monette, and



making them real, and in the case of the latter, likable. Even Michael shows a redeeming trait at the end. Also back from the first book is Michael's mother, Julia Stark, a rich bitch in denial about her son's sexuality. She uses her money to control Michael (at least whenever she is around him, which is not too often). She dislikes Robert, finally provoking him to avenge himself for her hostility and rudeness in a very funny way.

A few minor caveats: Stukas seems to equate nobility with royalty—a mistake. While all royals are nobles, not all nobles are royal. And Mad King Ludwig did not have any children, so he could have no direct descendants. These errors are easily forgiven because the author keeps the reader turning the pages, eager to learn more about New York's A-List Gay World, which he brings to life with such precise hilarity. ▼

Good sports

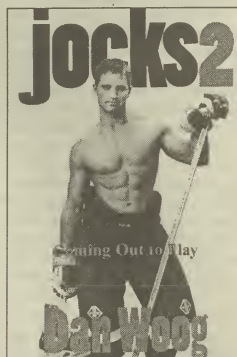
by Jim Nawrocki

Jocks 2: Coming Out To Play by Dan Woog; Alyson, \$14.95

Journalist Dan Woog has carved out a niche all his own by writing about the changing attitudes toward gay men in American society. His previous books, *Jocks*, *School's Out*, and *Gay Men, Straight Jobs*, have explored this subject in great detail by focusing on the contributions of gay men to some of our most important institutions. None of those institutions seems more quintessentially American than the world of sports, and Woog's success with *Jocks* has prompted him to revisit the subject in his new book, *Jocks 2: Coming Out To Play*.

Woog is also a soccer coach and self-proclaimed "gay activist," and his passions come through clearly in his writing. He's contributed to such publications as *The New York Times*, *Sports Illustrated* and *USA Today*, and he brings a similarly down-to-earth, highly readable style to his books. Each chapter of *Jocks 2* is devoted to an individual athlete in a particular sport. Woog's range is admirably broad: he discusses not only sports like football, baseball and basketball, but also such athletic pursuits as snowboarding, water polo, equestrian competitions, and speed skating.

Despite the fact that Woog's books are often packaged to look like erotica (and the hunky, shirtless, abs-of-wonder hockey player on the cover of *Jocks 2* makes for nice eye candy), they contain heartfelt, serious reporting about subjects that do not always get the cov-



erage they deserve. In his introduction, Woog quotes a sports journalist who laments: "The media has not really handled gay issues [in sports] well. We cover sports in a hack, celebratory, fan 'zine, jock-sniffing, ass-kissing way. There's very little room for realism."

There's plenty of realism in Woog's coverage of the many athletic careers he examines in this book. He tells the stories of men who have struggled with their sexuality in the predominantly macho, straight world of the locker room, but he also relates tales of those who have had an easier time of it (such as an all-gay soccer team, for example), and nearly all of the case histories he offers end on a hopeful note. He also seems to revel in shattering the old stereotype that gay men are "sissies" and wimps. In his chapter on Christopher Bergland, a triathlete, he describes Bergland's grueling regimen in a way that would

next page ►

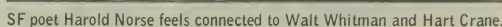
by Jim Nawrocki

The 86-year-old Norse, along with his friend and assistant Gregory Moloney, met with me recently in Norse's San Francisco home to talk about Norse's career. Norse confesses that he did not set out to write a book of memoirs, and that the book's success still surprises him. "All these years have passed, and I'm still amazed at all of the great reviews that I've got-

Norse admits that he grew up with a certain sense of estrangement from his family. He never knew his father, and though he was born a Jew, he did not identify as such and was actually raised as a Catholic. Though he didn't always want to be a writer, Norse says he soon found a talent for it. "Right off, I was a writer that everyone was noticing," he remembers of his high school and college days. "I was halfway to getting a Ph.D. and I thought, 'Oh, no, I've got to be a writer.' And that was either the best thing I did, or the worst."

Norse writes about himself and his many friends with unflinching honesty. He is particularly frank about his "triangle" with Chester Kallman and Auden. When asked about how he and Kallman first met Auden at a reading, Norse recalls it with amusement. "[Chester] fell on my bed and said, 'My God, Harold, Auden is here. We've got to

What's so remarkable about the book is simply the story that Norse tells. It's a life any writer would envy, filled with memorable encounters and inspiring travels. At times, the Norse of the *Memoirs* seems as wonderstruck and astonished as his readers must be. In one chapter, for example, he describes a Mediterranean cruise on a friend's yacht during which, in a single day, he meets the Duke of Windsor, and then later finds himself on an island of hunky, sex-starved male prisoners. When asked if he considers that's he's lived a charmed life, Norse laughs and says, "Well, it was like. I thought everyone was living like that." ▼



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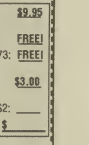
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Of course, Woog knows his audience, and he recognizes that many gay men who have no athletic ability whatsoever still fantasize about the homoerotic potential of the sports world. In his chapter on gay swimmers, for example, he takes some delight in describing the

“shaving parties,” skinny-dipping sessions and other aquatic play that the speedo-wearing set sometimes engages in. And the locker room, that staple of gay erotic fantasy, is also the subject of some titillating tales. There are some interesting surprises in the book, such as Woog’s description of the predominantly homophobic world of snowboarding. Another memorable chapter is Woog’s touching account of a gay baseball fan’s quest for assurance and acceptance. *Jocks 2* is a thorough and entertaining study of the emerging gay presence in the world of sports. ▼

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OUT & ABOUT

Calendare by Mark Mardon



"Tlaloc's Paradise," oil on wood, by Tino Rodriguez

Art epiphanies

For the first week of Artspan's Open Studios (www.sfoopenstudios.com), I managed to squeeze in exactly one visit to an open studio, at "Yosemite Place," a massive old concrete-and-steel warehouse in the Bayview District, housing a beehive of artists. There I found Kristen Sard (www.sard.com), whose deliberately warped photographic work will be featured at a curiously strong event called "Epiphany," to be held October 18-19 at a SoMa warehouse (43 Norfolk, between Folsom & Harrison, 11th & 12th). Sard's animalistic, distorted nudes will comprise one piece of a giant "Epiphany" puzzle — multilayered entertainment including live music, comedy, film projections, modern dance, DJs, and fire spinners, holding more meanings than you can shake a drum stick at.

I'm offering advance notice of this event because I'll be on an island off the coast of BC, meditating and playing my flute, when the magic of "Epiphany" occurs, but those in SF who want to experience the latest innovation in art parties are encouraged to attend. It's not specifically a gay event, but it's queer enough to suit all.

Produced by an SF artists' collective called Pollen (www.pollen-media.com), "Epiphany" consists not just of Sard's art installation, but of works by Sarah Nocktonic, Craig Poindexter (www.craig-poindexter.com) and other Pollen Magazine artists, in addition to a showcase of multimedia wizardry and a plethora of performances. The big shebang is headlined and hosted by the dazzling Spencer Day and Trixie Carr, of the Stud's "Crimson Club" fame. Expect some wildly creative showmanship. By now everyone knows vocalist/pianist/composer Day is the hottest thing on the jazz/cabaret/avant-garde music scene in decades, both in looks and talent, and the charismatic Carr is a brassy, brazen singer with killer characterizations and hella sexy moves.

"Epiphany" promises films by Matt Goldman and James Jhun; absurdist comedy theatre by Traveling Art Circus; live music by Royal Dutch, Oceana Blueskyes, Lodi Broekhuizen, El Pulp, and the punk band Lucky Stiffs; performance art by Stephanie Gerson and Tim Nutt; ultra-dynamic movement by Kristin Heavey's Element Dance Theatre; fire breathers; and much more. The Rula Planet Galaxy Girls serve as hostesses. At the Saturday night benefit party, DJs Ruben Mancias (Devoted/EndUp) and Vasili (Diversity/Housevibes) carry on the party. Tickets for the event are \$15. The doors open at 8 p.m., with performances starting at 9 p.m.

Alas I'll be out of town as well for the second weekend of Open Studios, which happens Oct. 12-13, which means I'll miss not only the great GLAA exhibition at Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy, but the home-studio showing by my two faves, Mexican painters Tino Rodriguez (www.tinorodriguez.com) and George Natividad, at 4065 24th St. (at Castro St.). These guys are going to be moving to New York City soon, so this is one of your last chances to catch them live, in person in their own studio, and view their marvelous work. In case you haven't been following Tino's blazing career, he's recently had major shows at LA's Jan Baum Gallery and in the San Jose Museum of Art's Focus Gallery. His art graces the cover of the gorgeous new book by Francisco X Alarcón, *From The Other Side Of Night*. ▼



"Low Trash Equals High Art," a Summer of Love exhibition including images of the Cockettes, at the SF LGBT Community Center. See Friday.

Fri 11

Luna Sea Theater & Gallery

"TransSisters Live & Uncut!" Directed by Claudia L. Vierra Allen. A groundbreaking, bridgebuilding, truth-telling, funny and powerful show featuring original performances pieces by six talented transgender women (MTF) of highly diverse backgrounds: Shawna Virago; Katherine Collins; Nedjula Baguio; Michelle Garcia; Aurora Grajeda; and Ashley Moore. Plus the Transcendence Gospel Choir. Some of these TransSisters were once signed to major record labels, produced major acts, and served the Trans Community on key issues concerning spirituality, protection against violence, HIV, substance abuse education, and have been cartoon illustrators for well-known publishers. From rock to classical music, comedy to real life, you'll find it all here. \$10-\$15 sliding. 8pm. Also Oct. 12. Luna Sea Theater & Gallery, 2940 16th St. Tix: 863-2989. Info: 863-2388.

SF LGBT Community Center

Opening party: Fayette Hauser and Rumi Missabu of the Cockettes, in association with QCC, The Center, and the Summer of Love Project, present "Low Trash Equals High Art," a multimedia exhibition celebrating the San Francisco lifestyle in the Summer of Love Era. Works by Robert Altman, Steven Arnold, Danny Nicoletta, Fayette Hauser, Edmund Shea, Scott Runyan, Kaisik Wong, Bud Lee, Clay Gerdes, Eddie Trolia, Diane Putnam, Tomata du Plenty, Ralph Sauer, Jet, Clifford Olsen, Billy Bowers, Wendy Mukluk and Dana Peter Porres. Entertainment by Gaygo. Music by Dana Peter Porres. Free. 6-9pm. Exhibit runs thru Nov. 22, Mon.-Sat. 9am-10pm; Sun. 10am-6pm. 1800 Market St. (at Octavia). Info: 643-9403; www.sfcenter.org

Belcher Artists Studio

Opening reception: works by Carlo Abbruzzese, Julie Alland, Jennifer Brazelton, Peter Howells, JoAnne Johnson-Deal, Paul O'Valle, William Salt, Charles H. Stinson, Rebecca Szeto and Sandy Yagi. Presented in conjunction with Open Studios. Free. 6-9pm. 69 Belcher St. (near intersection of Church, Market & 14th streets). Info: 626-8349; www.BelcherArtists.com

Maitri @ One Embarcadero Center

Opening Reception: "Maitri Fall Art Sale," featuring some 1,500 original works by 200 artists and art students. Hosted cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, live entertainment, raffle prizes and more. Reps from art galleries and art schools on hand to speak with new col-

lectors and answer questions. Proceeds benefit both Maitri and participating artists. Maitri is SF's only residential care facility dedicated to people living with AIDS. Your support is needed and appreciated. Free. 6-9pm. Exhibit/sale runs thru Oct. 20. One Embarcadero Center, Lobby Level. Info: 558-3002; www.maitrif.org.

Venue 9

Opening night: Custom Made Theatre Company (CMT) presents "Black Snow," adapted from the Mikhail Bulgakov novel by Keith Reddin, directed by CMT's artistic director Brian L. Katz. A neurotic writer in Moscow gets thrown into vortex of inflated egos at the city's legendary Independent Theater, where each rehearsal of her play sees more and more sparks flying higher and higher, with less and less chance of the thing ever being performed. \$15 (\$13 students/seniors). Thursdays are "Pay What You Can." 252 Ninth St. (at Folsom). Tix/info: 262-0477; www.CustomMade.org

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts

Rova:Arts presents *Rovaté 2002*, a program of groundbreaking new music. Featuring Satoko Fujii, a phenomenal pianist/composer and one of the leaders of the "New Jazz Japan" movement, with the Rova Saxophone Quartet (Steve Adams, Jon Raskin, Larry Ochs & Bruce Ackley), plus trumpeter Natsuki Tamura. \$20 (\$18 students/seniors). 7pm conversation with the artists; 8pm concert. YBCA Forum, 701 Mission St. (at 3rd St.). Tix/info: 978-ARTS; www.rova.org

Sat 12

National AIDS Memorial Grove

"National AIDS Memorial Grove Dedication Picnic," featuring Mayor Willie Brown, Supervisor Mark Leno, the Gay Men's Chorus and others dignitaries and groups, with Thom Weyand and Alice Russell-Shapiro serving as honorary co-chairs. Construction of the seven-acre memorial is now complete as envisioned more than 10 years ago, and the initial goal of raising \$1.5 million has been established. 12 noon-2pm; program 12:30-1:30pm. Corner of Bowling Green Dr. & Middle Dr. East, Golden Gate Park. Info: Rick Pavich, 750-8340; www.aidsmemorial.org

SF LGBT Community Center

"Vintage Cockette Film Event," held in conjunction with the exhibition "Low Trash Equals High Art," presented by Fayette Hauser and Rumi Missabu. Featuring *Tree* (1969), *Palace*, *Les Ghouls* (1970), *Tricia's*

Wedding (1971), and *Elevator Girls in Bondage* (1972). Free. 8pm. 1800 Market St. Info: 865-5000; www.sf-center.org

Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy

Open Studios: 19 members of the Gay and Lesbian Artists Alliance (GLAA) present a diverse body of artworks. This much anticipated annual showing features creations by Paul Alley, Gregg Cassin, Rob Costin, Nikos Diaman, Kevin Dunn, Tim Griffin, Michael Hackett, Ruben Joy, Terry Marasco, Robert Morgan, Chris Read, Kerry Rutz, Ron Saunders, Michael Schoenig, and Guy Wonder. The GLAA was established in SF in the late 1980s by men and women artists. During the early '90s most of the women split off to form Lesbian Visual Artists, so that GLAA has been primarily an organization of gay men. Within the group is a core of dedicated members, who are joined by additional artists for specific exhibits. Free. 11am-6pm. Also on Sun., Oct. 12. HMCRA, 4235 19th St. Info: BUYAART or 289-2278; email info@sfglaa.com

Mitcho's Open Studio

Mitcho shows off new works in the "Queerotic" genre, with Fine Art, paintings of orchids, and of course his internationally famous shoes. Says Jonathan Katz: "Experiencing Mitcho's art is like getting a barium enema ... It makes you glow." Free. 11am-6pm. Also on Oct. 13. 192 Noe St. (at 15th St.). Info: 793-2539.

848 Community Space

Performance and social to energize the Campaign for Congress, 8th District, of Green Party Candidate Jay Pond. Featuring Charlie Hinton's one-man comedy/drama "Life Wish," with music and sound by Jerome Clay, Akinyele Sadia, and Riehl Pagala. It's a revealing look at The World Bank, love and chocolate. Free. 7:30pm. 848 Divisadero St.

SomArts Cultural Center

Opening: "Entre La Luz y La Muerte — Between Light and Death There's Life." Explore weaving tunnels that lead to altars, sculptures and rooms with art commemorating the Day of the Dead. Curator Rene Yanez, in his 30th year of putting on Day of the Dead exhibits, has assembled the works of more than 50 artists. He and architect Nick Gomez have designed unique tunnels, formed out of tubes reminiscent of bones, to create tunnel-like paths leading to the various spaces, guiding visitors on a journey from darkness to light. Free. noon-5pm daily (closed Monday). Reception on Fri., Nov. 1. 934 Brannan St. (btwn 8th & 9th sts.). Info: 552-1770, ext 311; www.somarts.org

New Conservatory Theatre Center

Opening night: "Master of the (Miss) Universe," starring Noel Alumin in a tribute to one of the world's most enduring cultural icons: the beauty pageant. The show is a rollicking statement about race, sexuality, art, and how to tell if one has a "good" nose. \$25 opening night. \$15-\$20 other nights. 8pm (2pm Oct. 13, 20 & 27). Thru Oct 27. 25 Van Ness Ave. (near Market). Tix/info: 861-8972; www.nctcsf.org

SFMOMA

Opening: "Gerhard Richter: Forty Years of Painting," a full-scale survey of works by the influential German artist, covering every phase of Richter's career, from 1962 to present, demonstrating his mastery of gestural abstraction, landscape, portraiture, and photo-based painting. \$10 (\$7 seniors; \$6 students). Daily except Wed., 11am-6pm (open till 9pm Thu.). SF Museum of Modern Art, 151 Third St. Info: 357-4000; www.sfmoma.org

Glide @ The Galleria

Glide Memorial presents the 5th annual "Soul of the City" gala fundraising event, hosted by celebrated comedian and film star Margaret Cho (*Notorious C.H.O.*), with emcee Renel Brooks-Moon. Live and silent auctions. Celebrity appearances. Food from top SF restaurants. Live musical performance by the Glide Ensemble and special guests. DJ dancing. Speeches by Rev. Cecil Williams and Janice Mirikitani. 6pm VIP party; 7pm show. SF Design Center, 101 Henry Adams St. Tix/info: 674-6070; www.glide.org

Lavender Seniors, East Bay
Lavender Seniors, a group for all Bay Area gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgenders over the age of 55, hold their monthly potluck at noon. They are also seeking volunteers of all ages to work with socially isolated seniors. San Leandro Community Church, 1395 Bancroft Ave., San Leandro. Info/rides from BART: 510-667-9655.

Sun 13

Civic Center Plaza

StudioZ.tv presents the "The Spirit of Peace," the 35th Anniversary of the Summer of Love, a free music festival. Live music, arts, crafts, exhibits, food, children's area, vendors and beer gardens. Proceeds benefit nonprofits. 11am-7pm. Info: 252-7666; www.StudioZ.tv/summeroflove

Club 1220, Walnut Creek

"Comic-Kazi" spirals into the East Bay as comedian Ronn Vigh hosts some of the Bay Area's funniest stand-ups, including Gretchen Rootes, Pippi Lovestocking, Jeremy Beth Michaels and Chantal. \$6. 8:30pm. 1220 Pine Ave. (behind the 7-11), Walnut Creek. Info: 415-823-5121.

PFLAG @ St. Francis Lutheran Church

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays hosts Toni Broadbudd, Molly McKay, and Eve Lubalin of the Working Group on Marriage, which is developing an action plan to secure the right of marriage for lesbians and gays. Free. PFLAG Support Group meets 2-3pm (all welcome); program 3-4pm. 152 Church St. (at Market). Info: 921-8850.

Mon 14

SF LGBT Community Center

Comedian Julia Jackson hosts "QComedy Showcase," Monday Night Gay Comedy at the Center, featuring the laughable talents of Doug Holsclaw, Mike Uryga, Dana Cory, Amma, Ronn Vigh, and Bridget Schwartz. \$8-\$15 sliding. 7:30pm doors; 8pm show. 1800 Market St. Tix/info: 865-5633; www.harveymilk.org; www.QComedy.com

Tue 15

SF LGBT Community Center

"Transgender Support Meeting," sponsored by TGSF, which provides support services for transgender people and educational materials for the trans community and general public. A safe setting for trans people to meet and hold discussions. Free. 7:30-9:30pm. 1800 Market St., room Q-33 (3rd floor). Info: Rachael Janelle, 408-219-1250; email rachael_janelle@hotmail.com

New Langton Arts

Authors/personalities Dodie Bellamy and Douglas Rice read from new works that break constraints of linear narrative to express the complex issues of gender, desire, and the meta-



"About Face," by Christopher Read, part of GLAA Open Studios at Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy. See Saturday.

physics of the Self. Bellamy (*Cunt-Ups*, *Tender Buttons*, 2002) reads from *The Fourth Form*, a multidimensional sex novel in progress. Rice reads from *Skin Prayer* (forthcoming from Eraserhead Press), and a work in progress. \$6 (\$4 members/students/seniors). 8pm. 1246 Folsom St. Tix/info: 626-5416; www.newlangtonarts.org

Wed 16

New Conservatory Theatre Center

World Premiere Sequel: NCTC presents *The Men From The Boys*, by Mart Crowley, directed by Ed Decker, the sequel to Crowley's *The Boys In The Band*, which in 1968 shocked the nation with its frank depiction of a group of gay friends in New York City. Now, over 30 years later, *The Men From The Boys* pays a return visit to spend an evening with the old boys — and some new friends. \$18-\$28. 8pm Wed.-Sat.; 2pm Sun. Thu., Oct. 17 is "Pay As You Wish Community Night." 25 Van Ness Ave., lower lobby. Tix/info: 861-8972; www.nctcsf.org

Eureka Valley Rec Center

"Western Star Dancers Club Night," with annual elections. 7:30pm. 150 Collingwood St. (at 18th St.).

Bruno's

"Out With Friends," a monthly gay men's get-together and social event held at a swanky venue for cocktails and mixing. Free admission & appetizers. 6:30pm-8:30pm. 2389 Mission Street (at 20th St.). Info: 865-9717.

'Stood Up' @ The Stud

Drag comedian Pippi Lovestocking (Trannyshack) and comedian Ronn Vigh bring you "Stood Up," a diverse evening of stand-up comedy and mayhem, each week featuring a new lineup of SF comics. This week features Reanne Roads along with other guests. \$5. 8:30pm. 9th & Harrison. Info: 823-5121.

Thu 17

SF LGBT Community Center

Harvey Milk Institute's Arts & Lecture Series presents the second installment of its "Queer Photo Salon Series," curated by Chloe Atkins, featuring the work of Rebecca McBride, Lissalvy Tiegel, and Darlene Weide. \$5-\$20 sliding (NOTAFLÖF). 7:30pm. 1800 Market St. (at Octavia). Tix/info: 865-5633; www.harveymilk.org

A Clean Well-Lighted Place for Books

Dorothy Allison (*Bastard Out of Carolina*) reads from *Trash*, first published in 1988 and newly reissued. Free. 7pm. Opera Plaza, 601 Van Ness Ave. Info: 441-6670.

Phoenix Theatre

Preview: Kaliyuga Arts presents "Hysterics," two solo performance pieces: "Up From The Ground," written and performed by Dan Carbone, directed by John Sowle. A young boy stares into an unearthly blossom that has mysteriously appeared in his parents' cornfield and discovers a whole beautiful and potentially dangerous world that no one else can see; and "X: the Rise & Fall of an Asylum Star," by Jill Dowse, performed by Jennifer Taggart, directed by Steven Patterson. Paris, 1875. Augustine, age 15, suffering from "hysteria," is confined to the infamous Salpetriere Asylum for treatment, where she is transformed into Mademoiselle "X," performing her fits for audiences. Opens Oct. 18. \$12-\$15 sliding preview; \$15-20 other nights (Mon. Oct. 28 & Nov. 4 are "Pay What You Can;" 7:30pm), 8pm. 414 Mason St. (near Geary St.), 6th fl.

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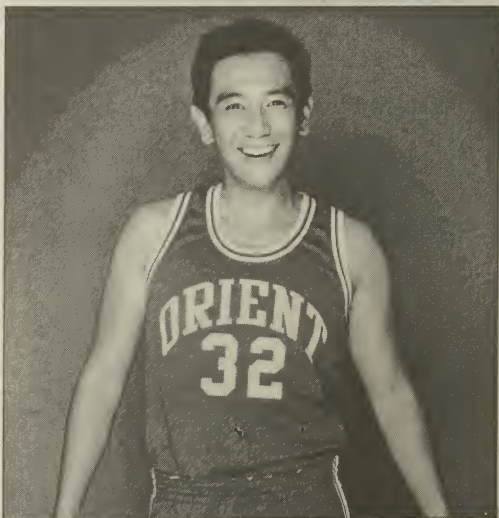
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Noel Alumit explores beauty pageants in "Master of the (Miss) Universe," at New Conservatory Theatre Center. See Saturday.

Arthur Dong

◀ Arts cover

but a son to Dornan. Since coming out to Dornan in 1989, Bennett can now only chat on Disney talk radio with the man he used to call "Poppy."

Dong's camera is now in the bedroom of Brett Mathews. From a rural Utah family of Mormon settlers, the young man's decision to out himself to both the Air Force and his father, a Mormon priest, has resulted in an honorable discharge from the service, a loss of all benefits, and an estrangement from his family that culminates in their refusing to participate in the film unless he consents to take a church-sponsored course to turn straight. As he packs for what he hopes will be a trip home of reconciliation, Mathews explains about the Mormon practice of wearing religiously sanctified or "holy" clothes. A smirk sneaks over his face as the camera zooms over a pair of sexy black Calvin Klein briefs. "Those aren't them," he chirps.

Sparks of violence

For 25 years, Arthur Dong has pondered the origins of violence

against gay people in America, and has completed three films in "my quest to understand American contempt for homosexuality." The spark for this amazing body of work was a life-altering night in the Castro. It's 1977. A 23-year-old Chinese-American is walking with a friend about a block from Harvey Milk's Castro Camera Shop. "We were attacked by a carload of teenage boys, who pelted us and screamed epithets," Dong and his friend found safety that night, grabbing onto the hood of a passing VW bus. Later, those same boys ambushed another man, a priest, who suffered severe head injuries. Dong began clipping columns from this newspaper chronicling a rising tide of violence against gay men and women in the neighborhood. A continent away, "Orange Juice Queen" Anita Bryant was leading a religious crusade to repeal a new law protecting gays from bias in Miami's Dade County.

Born and raised in San Francisco, the son of immigrants, Dong spent his puberty years, the late '60s and early '70s, riding an intoxicating wave of sexual freedom. "Rules were being broken, and in fact, if you didn't break the rules, you were square, and who wanted to be square?" A typically



Former Congressman Bob Dornan and Brian Bennett, '84 GOP convention.

randy teenager, he didn't come out, he was out, had a boyfriend, and soon had problems with his conservative Chinese parents.

"That was unpleasant. I moved away from home when I was 16. At that time in this city, you could survive on your own financially at 16. You can't do that now!" Dong didn't give up on his parents,

made weekly visits home, and even started bringing his boyfriends along. Eventually he would celebrate his mom's efforts to make a life in America in the film *Sewing Woman*.

A pivotal moment in Dong's career occurred in a Tyler, Texas courtroom, a moment that would eventually lead to his film *Licensed*

To Kill, prison interviews with men convicted of killing homosexuals. "I attended the trial of a young man who was being accused of murdering a gay man. I sat in that courtroom for weeks. Tyler's a small town, so being Asian-American, I kind of stuck out. I struck up a relationship with the accused. For me, physically, he was a very nice-looking young man, very polite and soft-spoken, and he was a human being, he wasn't a monster. It would have been easier for me if he'd had green horns sticking out of his head. It struck me that here's this person who committed this heinous crime; I need to understand that. That set me on my path to meeting other killers."

Dong explains that a key to making *Licensed to Kill* was his ability to damp down his emotions. "During the process of interviewing these men and hearing their justifications of murdering people like me, I was actually having feelings of gratitude to them that they were so frank, to open up and share their stories with me, so that I could bring them forth for the public to hear."

"That was my goal: for the public to really see the damage that people have done to their children through religious upbringing, educational conditioning or the media, politics, or many other social ills." Dong thinks that his ability to check his emotions during the interviews for *Licensed To Kill* has contributed to the film's acceptance as a training tool for many law enforcement agencies, including the FBI.

Public affairs

The immediate inspiration for *Family Fundamentals* came from Dong's observing an odd fact about a number of high-profile celebrities in the conservative movement. "The parents were public figures actively working against gay issues, but at the same time having gay kids themselves. For example, Pete Knight here in California has a gay son, and a gay brother who died of AIDS, but he was very opposed to any form of gay marriage or gay unions. It was public knowledge that he had a gay kid, and I thought that must be the strangest situation to be in. What must Thanksgiving dinner be like!"

At the age of 7, I was raised for a year in a small upstate New York community by my maternal step-grandmother, a woman who taught me how to kiss, scared me out of bedwetting, and took me to Sunday school, where I crayoned in pictures of Jesus. Frequently while watching Dong's film, I stopped the tape, remembering my step-grandma, and realizing just how precious are the ties that Dong shows unraveling under the pressure of irreconcilable life philosophies. Dong explains that, ironically, it's the Fundamentalist Christian version of unconditional love that wrecks many of these families: Christians believing that they are doing their children the biggest favor by "saving" their souls for a happy life ever after. Dong reports that many Fundamentalists are happy with the way their views are presented in the film, making it a good tool for dialogue.

Dong will appear at the film's preview, Thurs., Oct. 10, 7 p.m. at the Embarcadero Cinemas, benefiting the Film Arts Foundation. *Family Fundamentals* opens Friday at the Opera Plaza Cinemas (filmmaker in person 10/11). Dong will conduct a daylong workshop for documentarians on his creative process, Sat., Oct. 12, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Media Arts Building, 145 9th St. Info: (415) 552-8760. ▼

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VIRACEPT is indicated in combination with other antiretroviral agents for the treatment of HIV infection. The most common side effect of VIRACEPT is diarrhea, which can usually be controlled with over-the-counter treatments. Some prescription and non-prescription drugs and supplements should not be taken with VIRACEPT, so talk to your doctor first. For some people, protease inhibitors have been associated with the onset or worsening of diabetes mellitus and hyperglycemia, changes in body fat, and increased bleeding in hemophiliacs. **HIV drugs do not cure HIV infection or prevent you from spreading the virus.**

Refer to the important information on the next page. For more information, call toll free 1-888-VIRACEPT or visit www.viracept.com.

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Information for Patients

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Please read this information carefully before taking VIRACEPT. Also, please read this leaflet each time you renew the prescription, just in case anything has changed. This is a summary and not a replacement for a careful discussion with your doctor. You and your doctor should discuss VIRACEPT when you start taking this medication and at regular checkups. You should remain under a doctor's care when taking VIRACEPT and should not change or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.

Alert: Find out about medicines that should NOT be taken with VIRACEPT. Please also read the section "MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH VIRACEPT".

WHAT IS VIRACEPT AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

VIRACEPT is used in combination with other antiretroviral drugs in the treatment of people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. Infection with HIV leads to the destruction of CD4 T cells, which are important to the immune system. After a large number of CD4 cells have been destroyed, the infected person develops acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS).

VIRACEPT works by blocking HIV protease (a protein-cutting enzyme), which is required for HIV to multiply. VIRACEPT has been shown to significantly reduce the amount of HIV in the blood. Although VIRACEPT is not a cure for HIV or AIDS, VIRACEPT can help reduce your risk for death and illness associated with HIV. Patients who took VIRACEPT also had significant increases in the number of CD4 cell count.

VIRACEPT should be taken together with other antiretroviral drugs such as Retrovir® (zidovudine, AZT), Efavir® (lamivudine, 3TC), or Zent® (stavudine, d4T). Taking VIRACEPT in combination with other antiretroviral drugs reduces the amount of HIV in the body (viral load) and raises CD4 counts.

VIRACEPT may be taken by adults, adolescents, and children 2 years of age or older. Studies in infants younger than 2 years of age are now taking place.

DOES VIRACEPT CURE HIV OR AIDS?

VIRACEPT is not a cure for HIV infection or AIDS. People taking VIRACEPT may still develop opportunistic infections or other conditions associated with HIV infection. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC) infections, and Kaposi's sarcoma.

There is no proof that VIRACEPT can reduce the risk of transmitting HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

WHO SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT TAKE VIRACEPT?

Together with your doctor, you need to decide whether VIRACEPT is appropriate for you. In making your decision, the following should be considered:

Allergies: If you have had a serious allergic reaction to VIRACEPT, you must not take VIRACEPT. You should also inform your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist of any known allergies to substances such as other medicines, foods, preservatives, or dyes.

If you are pregnant: The effects of VIRACEPT on pregnant women or their unborn babies are not known. If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

If you are breast-feeding: You should discuss with your doctor the best way to feed your baby. You should be aware that if your baby does not already have HIV, there is a chance that it can be transmitted through breast-feeding. **Women should not breast-feed if they have HIV.**

Children: VIRACEPT is available for the treatment of children 2 through 13 years of age with HIV. There is a powder form of VIRACEPT that can be mixed with milk, baby formula, or foods like pudding. Instructions on how to take VIRACEPT powder can be found in a later section that discusses how VIRACEPT Oral Powder should be prepared.

If you have liver disease: VIRACEPT has not been studied in people with liver disease. If you have liver disease, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

Other medical problems: Certain medical problems may affect the use of VIRACEPT. Some people taking protease inhibitors have developed new or more serious diabetes or high blood sugar. Some people with hemophilia have had increased bleeding. It is not known whether the protease inhibitors caused these problems. Be sure to tell your doctor if you have hemophilia types A and B, diabetes mellitus, or an increase in thirst and/or frequent urination.

Changes in body fat have been seen in some patients taking protease inhibitors. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the trunk. Loss of fat from the face, legs and arms may also happen. The cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.

CAN VIRACEPT BE TAKEN WITH OTHER MEDICATIONS?

VIRACEPT may interact with other drugs, including those you take without a prescription. You must discuss with your doctor any drugs that you are taking or are planning to take before you take VIRACEPT.

Medicines you should not take with VIRACEPT:

Propulsid® (cisapride, for heartburn)

Cordarone® (amiodarone, for irregular heartbeat)

Quinidine (for irregular heartbeat), also known as Quinaglut®, Cardioquin®, Quindex®, and others

Ergot derivatives (Cafergot® and others, for migraine headache)

Halcion® (triazolam)

Versed® (midazolam)

Mevacor® (lovastatin, for cholesterol lowering)

Zocor® (simvastatin, for cholesterol lowering)

Taking the above drugs with VIRACEPT may cause serious and/or life-threatening adverse events.

Rifampin® (for tuberculosis), also known as Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate®
This drug reduces blood levels of VIRACEPT.

Dose reduction required if you take VIRACEPT with: Mycobutin® (rifabutin, for MAC); you will need to take a lower dose of Mycobutin.

A change of therapy should be considered if you are taking VIRACEPT with:

Phenobarbital

Phenytoin (Dilantin® and others)

Carbamazepine (Tegretol® and others)

These agents may reduce the amount of VIRACEPT in your blood and make it less effective.

Oral contraceptives ("the pill")

If you are taking the pill to prevent pregnancy, you should use a different type of contraception since VIRACEPT may reduce the effectiveness of oral contraceptives.

Special considerations

Before you take Viagra® (sildenafil) with VIRACEPT, talk to your doctor about possible drug interactions and side effects. If you take Viagra and VIRACEPT together, you may be at increased risk of side effects of Viagra such as low blood pressure, visual changes, and penile erection lasting more than 4 hours. If an erection lasts longer than 4 hours, you should seek immediate medical assistance to avoid permanent damage to your penis. Your doctor can explain these symptoms to you.

It is not recommended to take VIRACEPT with the cholesterol-lowering drugs Mevacor® (lovastatin) or Zocor® (simvastatin) because of possible drug interactions. There is also an increased risk of drug interactions between VIRACEPT and Lipitor® (atorvastatin) and Baycol® (cerivastatin); talk to your doctor before you take either of these cholesterol reducing drugs with VIRACEPT.

Taking St. John's wort (hypericum perforatum), an herbal product sold as a dietary supplement, or products containing St. John's wort with VIRACEPT is not recommended. Talk with your doctor if you are taking or are planning to take St. John's wort. Taking St. John's wort may decrease VIRACEPT levels and lead to increased viral load and possible resistance to VIRACEPT or cross resistance to other antiretroviral drugs.

HOW SHOULD VIRACEPT BE TAKEN WITH OTHER ANTI-HIV DRUGS?

Taking VIRACEPT together with other anti-HIV drugs increases their ability to fight the virus. It also reduces the opportunity for resistant viruses to grow. Based on your history of taking other anti-HIV medicine, your doctor will direct you on how to take VIRACEPT and other anti-HIV medicines. These drugs should be taken in a certain order or at specific times. This will depend on how many times a day each medicine should be taken. It will also depend on whether it should be taken with or without food.

Nucleoside analogues: No drug interaction problems were seen when VIRACEPT was given with:

Retrovir (zidovudine, AZT)

Efavir (lamivudine, 3TC)

Zent (stavudine, d4T)

Videx® (didanosine, ddl)

If you are taking both Videx (ddl) and VIRACEPT:

Videx should be taken without food, on an empty stomach. Therefore, you should take VIRACEPT with food one hour after or more than two hours before you take Videx.

Nonnucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTIs):

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

Viramune® (nevirapine)

The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood is unchanged. A dose adjustment is not needed when VIRACEPT is used with Viramune.

Sustiva™ (efavirenz)

The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be increased. A dose adjustment is not needed when VIRACEPT is used with Sustiva.

Other NNRTIs

VIRACEPT has not been studied with other NNRTIs.

Other protease inhibitors:

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

Crixivan® (indinavir)

The amount of both drugs in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

Norvir™ (ritonavir)

The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

Invirase® (saquinavir)

The amount of saquinavir in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS OF VIRACEPT?

Like all medicines, VIRACEPT can cause side effects. Most of the side effects experienced with VIRACEPT have been mild to moderate. Diarrhea is the most common side effect in people taking VIRACEPT, and most adult patients had at least mild diarrhea at some point during treatment. In clinical studies, about 15-20% of patients receiving VIRACEPT 750 mg (three tablets) three times daily or 1250 mg (five tablets) two times daily had four or more loose stools a day. In most cases, diarrhea can be controlled using antidiarrheal medicines, such as Imodium® A-D (loperamide) and others, which are available without a prescription.

Other side effects that occurred in 2% or more of patients receiving VIRACEPT include nausea, gas and rash.

There were other side effects noted in clinical studies that occurred in less than 2% of patients receiving VIRACEPT. However, these side effects may have been due to other drugs that patients were taking or to the illness itself. Except for diarrhea, there were not many differences in side effects in patients who took VIRACEPT along with other drugs compared with those who took only the other drugs. For a complete list of side effects,

ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

HOW SHOULD I TAKE VIRACEPT?

VIRACEPT is available only with your doctor's prescription. Your doctor may prescribe the light blue VIRACEPT Tablets either as 1250 mg (five tablets) taken two times a day or as 750 mg (three tablets) taken three times a day. VIRACEPT should always be taken with a meal or a light snack. VIRACEPT tablets are film-coated to help make the tablets easier to swallow.

Take VIRACEPT exactly as directed by your doctor. Do not increase or decrease any dose or the number of doses per day. Also, take this medicine for the exact period of time that your doctor has instructed. **Do not stop taking VIRACEPT without first consulting with your doctor, even if you are feeling better.**

Only take medicine that has been prescribed specifically for you. Do not give VIRACEPT to others or take medicine prescribed for someone else.

The dosing of VIRACEPT may be different for you than for other patients. **Follow the directions from your doctor, exactly as written on the label.** The amount of VIRACEPT in the blood should remain somewhat consistent over time. Missing doses will cause the concentration of VIRACEPT to decrease; therefore, you should not miss any doses. However, if you miss a dose, you should take the dose as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose and future doses as originally scheduled.

Dosing in adults (including children 14 years of age and older)

The recommended adult dose of VIRACEPT is 1250 mg (five tablets) taken two times a day or 750 mg (three tablets) taken three times a day. Each dose should be taken with a meal or light snack.

Dosing in children 2 to 13 years of age

The VIRACEPT dose in children depends on their weight. The recommended dose is 20 to 30 mg/kg (or 9 to 14 mg/pound) per dose, taken three times daily with a meal or light snack. This can be administered either in tablet form or, in children unable to take tablets, as VIRACEPT Oral Powder.

Dose instructions will be provided by the child's doctor. The dose will be given three times daily using the measuring scoop provided, a measuring teaspoon, or one or more tablets depending on the weight and age of the child. The amount of oral powder or tablets to be given to a child is described in the chart below.

Pediatric Dose to Be Administered Three Times Daily			
Body Weight Kg	Number of Level Scoops*	Number of Level Teaspoons†	Number of Tablets
7 to <8.5	15.5 to <18.5	4	1
8.5 to <10.5	18.5 to <23	5	1 1/4
10.5 to <12	23 to <26.5	6	1 1/2
12 to <14	26.5 to <31	7	1 3/4
14 to <16	31 to <35	8	2
16 to <18	35 to <39.5	9	2 1/4
18 to <23	39.5 to <50.5	10	2 1/2
≥23	≥50.5	15	3 3/4

In measuring oral powder, the scoop or teaspoon should be level.

* 1 level scoop contains 50 mg of VIRACEPT. Use only the scoop provided with your VIRACEPT bottle.

† 1 level teaspoon contains 200 mg of VIRACEPT. Note: A measuring teaspoon used for dispensing medication should be used for measuring VIRACEPT Oral Powder. Ask your pharmacist to make sure you have a medication dispensing teaspoon.

How should VIRACEPT Oral Powder be prepared?

The oral powder may be mixed with a small amount of water, milk, formula, soy formula, soy milk, dietary supplements, or dairy foods such as pudding or ice cream. Once mixed, the entire amount must be taken to obtain the full dose.

Do not mix the powder with any acidic food or juice, such as orange or grapefruit juice, apple juice, or apple sauce, because this may create a bitter taste.

Once the powder is mixed, it may be stored at room temperature or refrigerated for up to 6 hours. Do not heat the mixed dose once it has been prepared.

Do not add water to bottles of oral powder.

VIRACEPT powder is supplied with a scoop for measuring. For help in determining the exact dose of powder for your child, please ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

VIRACEPT Oral Powder contains aspartame, a low-calorie sweetener, and therefore should not be taken by children with phenylketonuria (PKU).

HOW SHOULD VIRACEPT BE STORED?

Keep VIRACEPT and all other medicines out of the reach of children. Keep bottle closed and store at room temperature (between 59°F and 86°F) away from sources of moisture such as a sink or other damp place. Heat and moisture may reduce the effectiveness of VIRACEPT.

Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Be sure that if you throw any medicine away, it is out of the reach of children.

Discuss all questions about your health with your doctor. If you have questions about VIRACEPT or any other medication you are taking, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist. You can also call 1.888.VIRACEPT (1.888.847.2237) toll free.

Call 1.888.VIRACEPT

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INTERVIEW

Remembering the fabulous redhead

Manager Quint Benedetti on his former boss, Agnes Moorehead

by Jay Blotcher

Every closeted gay or lesbian, wandering in the wilderness, could use a mentor. Sometimes, that spiritual guide arrives as a teacher, neighbor or priest. For Quint Benedetti, that special person was Endora, the haughty witch of TV's classic sitcom *Bewitched*. During an 11-year relationship that was equal parts business and friendship, Agnes Moorehead taught Benedetti, a closeted man running from a failed marriage, how to take back his life.

"She put me in touch with a part of me that was missing," Benedetti said. In gratitude to his former employer, Benedetti, now 76, recently released a CD. *The Lavender Lady* is a recording of Moorehead's one-woman show, performed during breaks from tormenting TV daughter Samantha and her mortal husband "Durwood."

"Since she loved that show," Benedetti said, "that was my way, in my own heart, to thank her for giving me my life back."

Growing up in Mount Vernon, Ohio in the '30s, Benedetti was drawn to theatre early, creating plays in his garage. One playmate was young Paul Lynde. "He was always sort of funny. His family encouraged him." But Benedetti belonged to a staunchly conservative Catholic family who discouraged his performances. Two brothers would become priests. The die was already cast. Benedetti became an altar boy, a "goody-two-shoes Catholic boy," he recalled.

In World War II, he was shipped to the Philippines. During one naval mission, Benedetti was raped by an older man. The incident threw into relief a desire that had burned inside for years. Nonetheless, after V-J Day, he did what was expected of a returning hero: Benedetti married a local girl. They would eventually raise four children.

Benedetti found work as a regional publicist for RCA Victor. Over 10 years, he squired around

stars like Perry Como and Eartha Kitt to radio stations across Central Ohio. During his travels, Benedetti would meet up with another lonely salesman. After a few drinks, they would end up sharing a motel room, and a bed. "There was never talk of gay, because we were both married men."

Benedetti's conflicted feelings grew, coinciding with his wife's mental illness. "I didn't want my children to know that their father was that way; I certainly didn't understand it myself." Meddlesome relatives and Church elders demanded that he fulfill his duty as husband and father. An "ugly" divorce occurred in 1960. Benedetti took to the road, at 34, to finally find himself.

Heart project

Benedetti eventually settled in to Los Angeles. Flattened by depression, he entered therapy to unravel his torment. His therapist urged him to return to acting. "You have to get back to something you love."

Having seen Moorehead on television talking about her acting school, Benedetti enrolled. Since his teens, he had been enchanted by her movies, including *Citizen Kane* and *The Magnificent Ambersons*. Moorehead, classically trained as a stage actress, would eventually earn five Oscar nominations.

Moorehead was as formidable in person as she was on screen. "She was just bigger than life," he said, an actress made for Technicolor with her cheekbones, Titian red hair and steely blue eyes. She was still a year away from her role as Endora. As starstruck as he had been during his RCA days, Benedetti hung on Moorehead's every word.

But Moorehead was a better actress than a teacher. She preferred to hold forth on her glory days in Hollywood, and decried the current vogue of Method Actors and their "slovenliness." "Agnes had a distinct distaste for the unconventional."

Moorehead asked Benedetti to work for her, answering her fan



Moorehead in 'An Intimate Evening with the Fabulous Redhead,' 1969.

mail and correspondence. It was a turning point in his life. "Instead of the timid little guy, I became a man."

Benedetti pitched himself into the local gay scene. "That first year was like a smorgasbord," he said. The former altar boy had finally thrown off the shackles of his religious upbringing. Partially. "I came out a little bit to myself. But not to anyone else."

He spent many hours at Moorehead's Beverly Hills home. One chore was maintaining Moorehead's lavender Thunderbird, which the actress never drove. Benedetti drew admiring looks as he cruised between Los Angeles and San Diego behind the wheel.

The unlikely pair also grew closer. Moorehead, whose father was a Presbyterian minister, felt she had found a kindred spirit in Benedetti. "She was a very complicated woman, a Bible-thumping gal."

Although she was now wiggling her nose weekly on *Bewitched*, Moorehead resented the lowbrow scripts and arduous schedule. But she liked the paychecks and the limousine service every morning. Still, her first love was theatre. She toured the country with a one-woman show of monologues, for \$800 an engagement. Moorehead elevated her corresponding secretary to personal manager, and he negotiated a \$3,500 fee for every personal performance, plus expenses.

Meanwhile, Benedetti was blossoming on his own, writing songs and fielding amorous offers. He would kindly ignore the attentions of Jim Nabors while shopping the local supermarket, he said. But he was less successful in fending off the aggressive Johnny Mathis, whom he was trying to sell some songs. After months of dropping hints, Mathis finally bedded him one afternoon. "I was scared shitless. He was so damned sexy."

than a coot," Benedetti recalled. On the set of *Bewitched*, actors Dick Sargent, Maurice Evans and Paul Lynde were gay. A favorite escort of Moorehead was Cesar Romero, the musical-comedy star billed as a Latin lover, but who was, in the parlance of the day, "a confirmed bachelor."

Nonetheless, Benedetti thought it would be wise to keep mum on his homosexuality. Only once did he touch upon the subject. "I told her once that I was in therapy," he recalled. Moorehead's answer: "You don't need it; all you need is God and a Bible." Benedetti decided not to explain the sexual conflicts that put him on the couch. But, buoyed by his work with Moorehead, he eventually came out to others.

The title of *The Lavender Lady* CD refers to Moorehead's favorite color, not her alleged Sapphic inclinations. Despite a relationship that endured until her death, Benedetti saw no evidence of Moorehead's purported lesbianism. Regarding the long-whispered rumor of Moorehead's affair with actress Debbie Reynolds, Benedetti had a simple explanation: "She would affix herself to people with money." Reynolds, at the height of her fame, was rich.

Benedetti speculated that the lesbian rumor was started by a vicious Lynde, but still speculates. "She was in denial in as many ways as I was. I don't really think that she was a practicing homosexual."

After Moorehead died in 1974, Benedetti chronicled their years together in a memoir. But publishers passed on it, pressing for details on the Reynolds-Moorehead friendship. Last year, he rediscovered a monaural analog reel-to-reel tape of Moorehead's one-woman show, recorded in 1969 at her alma mater, the University of Wisconsin. Benedetti worked with a local engineer on the tape, which features nine pieces that range from the dryly humorous to the stirring.

Benedetti hopes that the new recording will generate renewed interest in the actress and will pay back a debt to an old friend. "She gave me my self-esteem back, without knowing it." ▼

On the road again

Benedetti grew to understand his boss best during a series of cross-country car rides. Moorehead, a staunch believer in her God, nonetheless had an irrational fear of flying. Benedetti would ultimately drive her across the country eight separate times for her one-woman show, which she called *An Intimate Evening with the Fabulous Redhead*.

During the long road trips, Moorehead's crusty exterior softened. She would talk about her failed marriages, her domineering mother, and her one true love, her father. Moorehead also delighted in roadside hamburgers drenched with catsup.

She seemed to have no problems with gay people. One of the teachers in her school "was gay"



Benedetti with Moorehead, 1969: 'She was a very complicated woman.'

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Rejoicing in the redwoods

by Mister Marcus

With stately Redwood trees standing like silent sentinels in the background, the Russian River Leather Week and Mr. North Coast Leather 2003 contest unfolded for the natives and visitors alike last week in Guerneville. Under the direction of Rodger Jensen, T. Jay Cain and Jake Schwartz, the third annual title contest was executed with five stalwart contestants, and a record crowd at the Odd Fellows Hall cheered lustily for the contenders.

As the master of ceremonies, IML 1992 Lenny Broberg spared no one in the audience his sharp and acerbic comments. At one point, someone's cell-phone ring interrupted the proceedings and Mr. Broberg marched up to the man, grabbed the phone and answered it. On the other end was the man's son calling his dad from somewhere in Texas and God only knows what he thought when Lenny answered the phone. The audience howled!

Judges Cliff Pratt, Skeeter Barker, Abe Feuerstein, Rod Wood and former IML Jeff Tucker faced off with contestants Mr. Fab Mike Adams, Mr. RR Eagle Jim Peterson, Mr. Rainbow Cattle Co. Arnie House, Mr. Xen Resort Tie MacNeil and Mr. Triple R Leather Scot Howard. They underwent the usual background interviews, leather image presentations, onstage questioning, and the ever-popular jock competition.

Comedian Sott Capurro managed to keep the crowd amused with his "fantasy" dialogue on certain leather fetish scenes, and by castigating his own elderly mother's idiosyncrasies. It was a riot, but his final serious lines were especially well taken when he lauded the leather/BDSM community for their ongoing fund raising efforts. Nice touch for someone who is not really into (or in) leather.

There was a raffle to benefit local AIDS charities, with the winner getting tickets to the Cher and Cindy Lauper concert. Rodger Jensen's step-aside speech was a 14-minute recap of his year with the title, and he thanked various individuals for their mentoring,



Mr. North Coast Leather 2003 winners up at the Russian River last Saturday, October 5 (from left): Jim Peterson, 1st runner-up; Scot Howard, the title winner; and Mike Adams, 2nd runner-up. Scot advances to compete at IML 2003 in Chicago next May.

help, advice and encouragement. Rodger spoke from the heart and his sincerity was very much in evidence.

When the scores were totaled by former Ms. Golden Gate Leather Erin Kelley, the winner was announced as Scot Howard (Mr. Triple R Leather). The first runner-up was Mike Adams, and the second runner-up was Jim Peterson. Cameras flashed, video cams whirled and there was a rush to the stage to congratulate the winners. The victory party was jam packed at the Russian River Eagle, and whoops and hollers echoed through the Guerneville canyons far into the night.

Scot Howard advances to compete at IML 2003 in Chicago in May 2003. The IML team expects a record number of contestants, and already there are close to 30 titleholders on the roster.

While all this was going on at the Russian River, the Utica Tri's MC were staging their Mr. North Atlantic contest, and in Moncton, Canada, they were choosing their contestant for Chicago. At my deadline, no results were forwarded to me from Moncton, but in Utica two men and two boys competed for that title, and when it was over, Adam Kaplowitz (also Mr. Oneida Leather 2002) from Danbury, Connecticut won the

sash, and Daniel Hein from Albany, New York won the boy title. Adam advances to IML next May and Boy Daniel will compete at the American Brotherhood Weekend next April in Washington, D.C. And yes, former Mr. Philadelphia Leather was there in drag again! Will he be the next Empress of Pennsylvania? De Philadelphia? Inquiring minds want to know!

And just so you know, IML 2003 next May should be most interesting. A lot of hot, qualified men will be vying for the 25th spot on the IML winner roster.

Ups and downs

The San Francisco Leather Pride Week 2002 and Folsom Street Fair 2002 may be history, but recapping some of the events, kindly note that the SF Leather Dyke Family party for women "Revels of Venus" had over 300 women in attendance, and in the process raised some \$2,166 to benefit for the Women's Cancer research Center, the GLBT Historical Society, National Foundation for Cancer Research and the Gay Human Rights Center. Kudos to Dyke Diva Billie, Dyke Daddy Vick, Dyke Grrl Kim and Dyke Boy Bronze. You women rock!

Meanwhile, on October 2nd, Damien Kelley announced the closing of Castlebar for good, effective immediately. There will be an auction in the near future.

next page ►

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Weekend, October 10-13

The star of the weekend is the International Leather Sir & Boy competition in St. Petersburg, Florida when Gary Vandeventer and Mark Green end the Drummer saga forever in all the world except Amsterdam, Holland.

In New York, the 3rd Annual S/M Film Festival plays out with scores of films, documentaries and other esoteric activities directly concerned with the leather/bdsm lifestyle.

In SoCal, it's the 9th Annual Queer Biker Invasion of Death Valley, California, and the big powwow at Zabriskie Point. For details, email mcpstyle@well.com or surf www.well.com/user/mpstyle/qbidv.02.htm.

Saturday, October 12

Avatar Club in Los Angeles 2002 Officers' Installation Dinner, at the Assistance League of Southern California, with a roast of David Murdock, and installing seven members to the Executive Board. RSVP to George Wong (AvatarClub@aol.com) or

call (213) 445-3672.

Sunday, October 13

Hey, it's Fleet Week in San Francisco! The best way to celebrate all that "seafood on the hoof" is to attend the Phoenix Uniform Club's beer/soda bust at the Eagle, from 1500-1800, with an \$8 beer/soda bust, gourmet food, uniform contest and fun galore. Welcome sailors!

Friday, October 18

Exiles of SF meeting at the Women's Building, with Skeeter of Mister S expounding on "Setting the Scene," and this should be interesting! \$3 for members/\$6 for guests.

Weekend, October 18-20

In Asbury Park, New Jersey, it's the 3rd Annual Mr. New Jersey Leather competition at Paradise.

In Tulsa, Oklahoma, it's the Oklahoma Mr. Leather contest with a \$90 weekend package deal. Surf to: www.tulsaleather.com/tulsa.htm.

Holy homosex

by John F. Karr

I am afraid on the Path. Even if I knew the meaning of the Unknown, if I understood the language of the birds and the xylophone, if I were to be an example of all that is Holy, I still would not know Perfect Joy. But I'll gladly settle for Chris Ward's newest porno, *Sexus*. It released me from time and space.

Sexus is Ward's 50th movie, and the Raging Stallion team made a special effort to mark the occasion. At first it seems a strange celebration. It doesn't have a cast of thousands or big-budget settings, and it can't be bothered to hopscotch through a *divertissement* of scenes. Instead, it's a confident display of the "through-composed" style Ward has been cultivating ever since he began making porn. Ward told me *Sexus* was "austere," meaning stripped-down.

Instead of getting grandiose, *Sexus* cuts to the essentials: five guys, a contained space, excellent lighting and videography, and direction that underscores the performers' relationships at all times. And since I can't say it better than the guy who made it, here's what else Ward said about his movie. "It has an art edge. Not enough to interfere, but that's what I'm good at, throwing that art spin on the action."

Before that scares you off, let's look at what "art spin" actually means. All the action takes place on and around a steel-frame bed, which sits in the middle of nowhere. A warm space, whose limits fade into darkness. A handful of fin-shaped slabs that slash through the background are the lone decoration, taking on the lighting's sumptuous color, and providing contrasting planes for framing the visuals (think butch Vincente Minnelli). This simple, handsome, and masculine location throws the focus entirely on the action. Which, in a patented Ward style that's bloomed since he's owned and edited his

movies, is a constantly evolving event that segues through partnerships in an artistically calculated stream of sexiousness. As a surge of action climaxes, a player or two will change, and a new scene unfolds. Ward's porn is like *Of Man River*: it just keeps rolling along. And you keep right on stroking.

Power bars

Here's how it goes. In a frisky prelude, real-life lovers Lance Gear and Peter Raeg are gobbling each other's gorgeous cocks and swap-fucking their adorable asses. What a team. Then Tom Vacarro and husky Luke Bronson are a more



Tom Vacarro helps supply the fierce love of stout-cocked men in *Sexus*.

rooted pair, earth to Lance and Peter's air. Luke devoutly worships Tom's stout and solid cock, Peter and Lance join in, and the trio service Tom. It seems as if everybody fucks everyone else, Tom particularly powering it into Peter's delectable ass. When everyone except Tom cums, Sky Dawson materializes to help him out. In the movie's central adagio, there's

some never-ending rimming,

outrageous asshole-teasing of Sky's butt by Tom's unsheathed cock, and a sweaty, earnest fuck that plumbs Dawson's appreciable depths. Then we merge into a scherzo, with Gear plugged at both ends by a fabulous collection of cocks; and roll into an impassioned finale, in which the four guys gang up on Dawson, ultimately unleashing yet another round of orgasms that dredge up hard-earned jewels of jiz.

I've left out the sort of details I love to dote upon; I'm sure you'll take up the slack. Actually, there was precious little that was slack when I watched *Sexus*. It's luxury

porn: elegantly made for adults who want to see the fierce love of men, not fairy tales.

Late-Breaking News: I've had a major boner for both Gear and Raeg. How can these guys be simultaneously so butch and so adorable? This is the first time on film that the duo have fucked other guys, and since Raeg has just made a couple of films without Gear, it may be their last together, or apart. Peter tells me they're departing for his native Australia, where he'll pursue a doctorate in science, and Lance will be a personal trainer. Neither will say he's retiring from porn, yet both are planning on more conventional work. Their most unconventional appeal was the way they broke into the cutest smiles; Peter admitted it took great effort for either of them to keep from smiling while making out, taxing their editors, who thought butch only had a straight face. I'll miss 'em both, but *Sexus* is a swell valedictory, and Peter does get to flash one beguiling smile in it, right into the camera. That's where I hit the freeze-frame. Gave me perfect joy. ▼

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Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

Damion thanks the community for the support she received over the years. For details on the auction, Email to damion@castlebar.com.

Florida in the spotlight

By the time you read this, hundreds of leather people will already be in St. Petersburg, Florida for the inaugural competition for the titles International Leather Sir and International Leather Boy at

the Sun Coast Resort. The judges are in place, the staff at the resort are geared up for the onslaught of the leather nation. Gary Vandeventer, the last International Mr. Drummer, and Mark Greene, the last International Drummer Boy, will mark history, as the new titles replace one of the leather community's most cherished titles. The moguls and money-grabbers in Amsterdam have virtually destroyed an American tradition with their shameful acts of greed and power madness.

But Mike Zuhl has persevered

and managed to rally the support of the regional sponsors, and even added two more regions to the contest pool. Stay tuned for the results next week. I'm happy to join the judging team, so the results will appear here first.

Until next week, keep your dedication in tune with the leather credo, and for up-to-date leather information (not the month-old news on certain "vanity" websites) pertaining to communities throughout the nation, be sure to click on www.LeatherPage.com. See you there! ▼

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PARTING GLANCES

9/29 Pilsner @ Pootable

You-VGL WM blu 88 cap blu jkt sat in corner. Me-blu t-shirt military haircut like your chin scruff. You liked my hair. Wished I talked more. Single? Meet? **72098**

"Son's Party" Sept 29 6pm

Fire-(?) "Loved your Horns" My own Devil! Had a very good connection with you the whole evening. Let's look up once again, I'm your Angel, "Black Star Power!" **72099**

Admired You At Folsom Fair

2pm on sidewalk near 11th. As we passed, I said, "I sure could have fun with those," you smiled put your hand on your nipple and said, "what these?" I said yes. We talked for a moment but it was noisy and I was distracted by the fogging demo. Then we moved on. You: fair skin, big chest and nipples, hearing aids? Me: In tan shirt and cap. Let's have that fun. **72100**

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Interracial Couples Wanted!

I want to get together with interracial couples or groups for fun to party or to have sex. Contact me. **72060**

-Looking 4 One Good Man-

My last ad received no calls, so here I go again. 32 year old Italian, 165lbs, dark hair, hazel eyes, clean shaven looking for cute pie to date. I'm handsome looking 4 same!! **72061**

Cute Sexy Husky Hot Hugable

ISO monogamous fr with GWM, GWM, 38-48. Me: GWM, HIV-, 44, 5'9", 185, mustache, s&p, blue. Enjoy movies, romantic dinners, massages, kissing & cuddling. S.F. & Peninsula. **72062**

Attractive Latino, 31

Seeking White or Latinos under 40 for friendship, maybe more. I'm 5'7", 165lbs, muscular, dark features, clean-cut. N/S only. **72063**

GLM Seeking 4 Cute Nice GLM

Masculine versatile guy 38-50". 5'8lbs, looking 4 slim versatile guy. Masculine. No drugs, bar scene a companionship and sex hablo español. **72064**

Sincere Meaningful Relationship?

Is that what you want? Contact me. I'm educated, talented, creative, fun and really good in bed. **72065**

Submissive GWM Bottom ISO LTR

Me 29, 5'6", 210lbs, light skinned nice nipples hairy chest, nice butt, enjoys travel, casino's, amusement parks & more. ISO GBLW 25-45 shaved head goatee medium thick build for friendship/ltr. **72066**

"Gentleness"

Bl WM, 55, tall, attractive, half-intellectual, spiritual, nice person seeks younger, bright, attractive, disease-free, straight-acting male with spiritual depth for warm communication and gentle intimacy. **72067**

"I Want You!!!"

GBM top 50 seeks GWM bottom 50+ or yld for dating, good sex and poss ltr. Me: many interests, articulate and good lover. You: enjoy wearing Panties (silk, nylons not drag). Must be able to communicate feelings. Be under 6'11" tall. No beards, enjoy recreational smoke and aroma and like to cuddle. **72068**

Mulatto Guy Educated, Intelligent,

Light-skinned, good-looking, creative, sexy, well-hung; seeks guys for friendship, fun for sex. **72069**

Gay Parent In Contra Costa County

40's Asian, easy going, joyful for movies, dining, gardening? Quiet times. Looking for GWM 40-50yo for quality time. **72081**

"Young Cute Russian!"

In search for another cute smart cultured guy (American or European) to share life together and all its pleasures. Under 40 only. **72082**

"Oral Sex Buddy"

Lean hairy muscular body on tall mature GWM seeking a similar furry, in-shape, 40+, poz GWM. Enjoy regular oral sessions, nip work, JO, kissing, endless caressing, making love. Forget anal obsessions, top/bottom, cock size. If attractive and sexy are satisfying, let's play often and get to know each other. I am together and fun-UB2. **72083**

Great Man 4 Lean Hairy Hung Top

Very nice man, passionate, affectionate, masculine, fit, muscular, very handsome seeks another nice man over 35 that is fit, hairy, hung, recreational, with mustache or goatee, cu a plus. **72084**

"Mixed Or Latino"

Young 18-30 slim or muscular body with swollen nipples and nice round butt. Need love. I'm here for you. No f&s or f&s, must be serious. **72085**

"F&s Or F&s Not"

GBM, 51, 5'10", 50ch, loving, caring, warming very patient, honest, trusting, kissable, aggressive HIV- and loyal. You 18-30 goodlooking nice round butt and swollen nipples. **72086**

"Anyone In The North Bay Sober?"

Me: 32 Italian/Caucasian 5'9", 165lbs, drk hair, hazel eyes, out to handsome. You: attractive, sexy, fun outgoing and guy. No "Close cases". I'm 4 months sober and fun. **72101**

One Good Man Wanted For Lover

White man 49, 6' 204lbs brown hair blue eyes bottom or top love oral seeking a White man 40-60 for long term relationship. **72102**

This Could Be The One

G.B.M. 51y.o., 5'9", 180lbs well-rounded, masculine yet gentle, patient, understanding. Want to share long-term & fulfilling relationship with warm loving senior man. Let's talk. **72103**

SEEKING ADVENTURE

Hungry Cock Sucker!

I love to suck dicks that are 8, 9, or 10 inches or larger. Just lay back and let me service you. I have videos, etc. **72070**

Beautiful Eurasian Bay-25y

Looking for kisses & deep interaction- frolic naked in my garden of eating. **72071**

"Volunteers"

Get naked for my underwear, 18-30 only no f&s or f&s. Volunteer your body for my wear. Show me what you've got. Volunteers only. **72072**

Horse Hung Guys Wanted

I want to find guys who are hung 9 or 10 inches or more to get together so I can service you for 30 mins, 1-hour or more. **72073**

Uncut, Hung-9, Hairy, Masc, Musc

GWM, 50, 5'9", 160, balding, muscular/goatee, versatile dad. ISO mas/musc fit man, great butt, nice cock, "big" work", verbal, light S&M, rough, tender, kiss & cuddle. Live on East Coast, visiting S.F. Nov. Nude photo required, butt photo get mine. I am HIVpoz! 18years. **72074**

Bl WM Size Queen Seeks Huge Cock

58, 5'8", 160, 7", trim build, N/S, N/O, HIV-neg, very oral and anal. Come to Petaluma and give me a big thrill. Any race. Let's talk. **72075**

Lean And Hairy

Smooth and lean WM 43 wants to meet another similar guy with facial or body hair for naked fun sessions. I'm 7'2" and versatile. Any race or height. **72076**

GWM Ass For Tops To Fuck

Need ass fucking top men to fuck me while I'm on my stomach. Me: GWM, 51, 5'11", 174, muscular, tan line. You: any age, nice weight/height proportionate who likes to fuck ass. **72077**

Weekday Morning Bone

40 year old boy wants naked for 40-60 year old dad to come over & play. I enjoy showing it all to you. Tit work, ju, bring tops over. **72078**

Jack-Off And Oral Party

I like to party with guys who are hung 8, 9, 10 inches or more. Let's lay back, watch videos, and have lots of fun. **72079**

Young submissive boy!

Is looking for a dominant top or group of tops for long intense sessions. The boy is smooth, cute and very eager. Please be under 40. **72080**

Shutterbugs!!

WM, 64, 6'20lbs, chubby, safely uninhibited, loves being on the lens side of a camera, got the picture? **72086**

Hot Blond WM, 21,

And older friend seek guys interested in small group sex sessions on a bi-monthly basis. All races welcome. Must be 18-30, healthy and fit. Santa Cruz. **72089**

"Cute Smooth Asian Boy"

Seeks hung muscular men to get to know. My hobbies ranging from comics, karaoke, videos games. I seek some honest out going NS, ND men very oral. **72090**

"Young 18-19"

Safe sex only no condoms no sex. Swollen nipples, round butt, slim or muscular body is a plus. GWM, 51, 5'10", 220, 50", loves naked bodies no f&s or f&s. **72091**

"Halloween Dream"

GBM, 34, 89, total top, 6' 210", 8x6, HIVneg. Visiting SF 10/30-11/3. Seeks intelligent, squeaky-clean musc, bottom guide under 40 for fun/late sex. **72092**

Slim Smooth Under Cock Wanted

6'11", 200lb W/M is seeking a group of very smooth, slender guys with big cocks. Let's get together so that you can take turns fucking me!! **72104**

Naked On Your Knees

Role playing trim WM 43 gives orders to trim masculine guys under 45 who like verbal domination and oral submission. No pain or unsafe sex. **72105**

Your Cock Lover

Love to meet and suck your big cock regularly. I am GWM 6' 165lbs. Ages 40-60 yrs. Have it kissed and swallowed deep. Shoot your horny loads. **72106**

LESBIAN

"Respond Code 3, Will You?"

GWF 43 lives in So. Ca. ISO GWF 35+ who works in Law Enforcement or Public Safety, 4 friendship, good phone conversation penpals. Would love to visit the Bay Area. **72080**

Single & Living In Seattle

G.F. 30's attractive, butch, articulate ISO GWF lip-stick 20-37 slender, single free from ex-girl baggage, sensitive. Know what you want. No games! No fetishes! Just sane, nice. **72093**

FETISHES

"Swimmers Into Dirty Water Sports"

Want guys who would like to splash around in a deep sunken tub of public hair, athlete's foot and jock itch infused water under our gym showers. **72094**

Brad Pitt, Eat His Shit, Jude

Law, eat it raw, Ben Affleck, be his ass lick, Matt Damon, his asshole alim!, it's going south, into your mouth. Look like that, feed your scat. **72095**

Leather Action!!

GWM, 30's seeks others into kinky leather action-5'9" 145, into chaps, boots, jock-straps, etc. Erotic funtimes- give details- get back and let's do it. **72096**

Heavy J/O, D/Talk, Cock Worship

Intense partying buddy desired, strictly, j/o, talk. Your place-pm only, no toys, videos, groups, age, size, race, looks, unimportant. Mutual j/o, d/t, c/b worship bring daddy style. **72107**

OTHERS

Free Senior Massage

WM middle 50's will give light massage to jn shape senior men 70+ years. Your place please. Hairy chest & legs A+. No reciprocation on your part. **72097**

The Hottest Guy In Town

Isn't worth losing your love over. Play safe! **72098**

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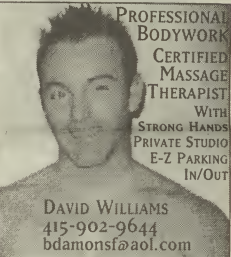


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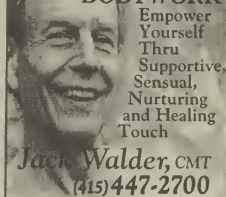
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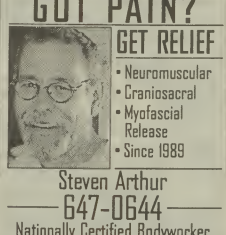
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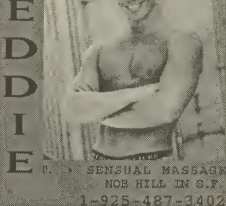
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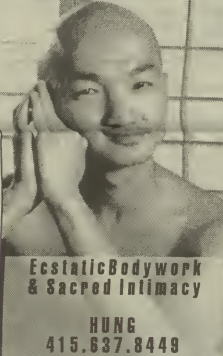


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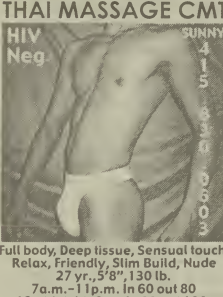
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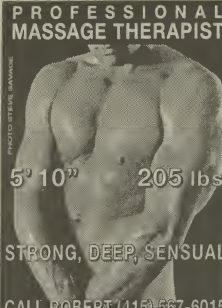
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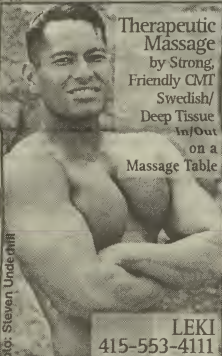


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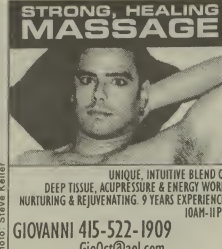
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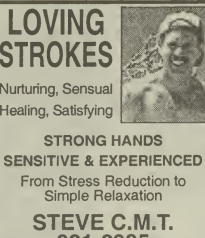
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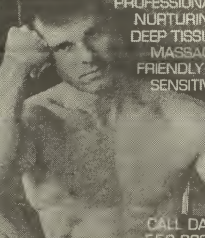
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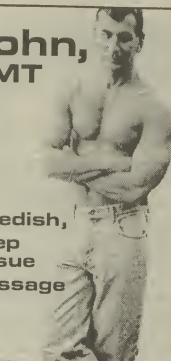
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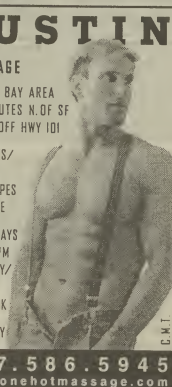
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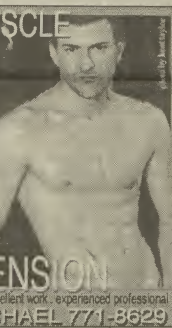
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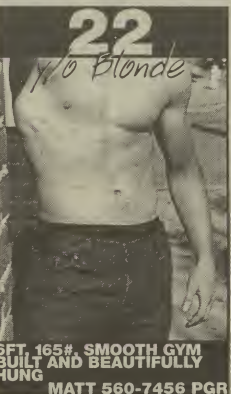
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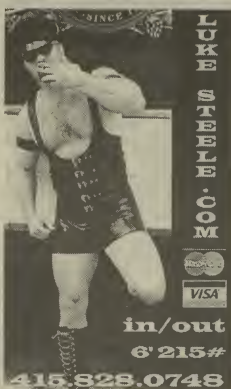
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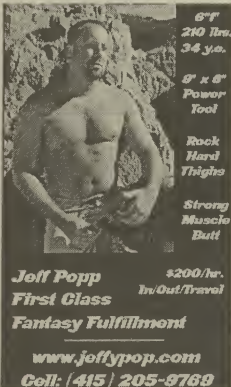
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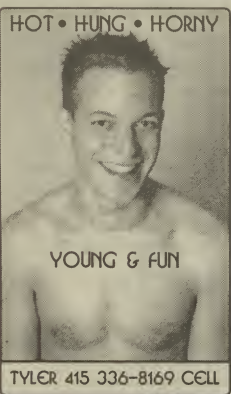
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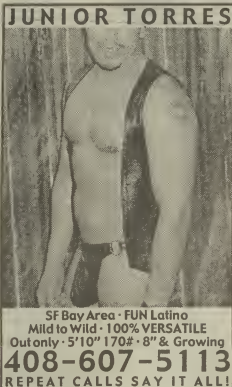
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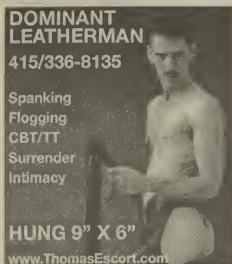
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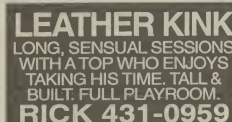
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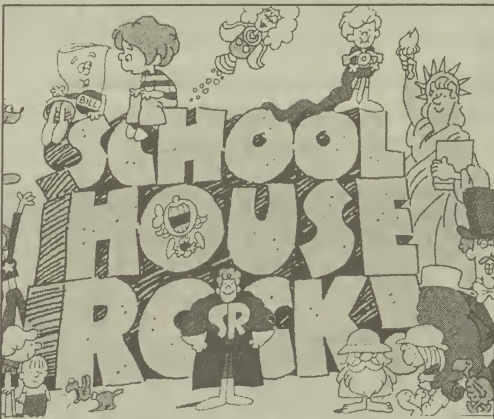
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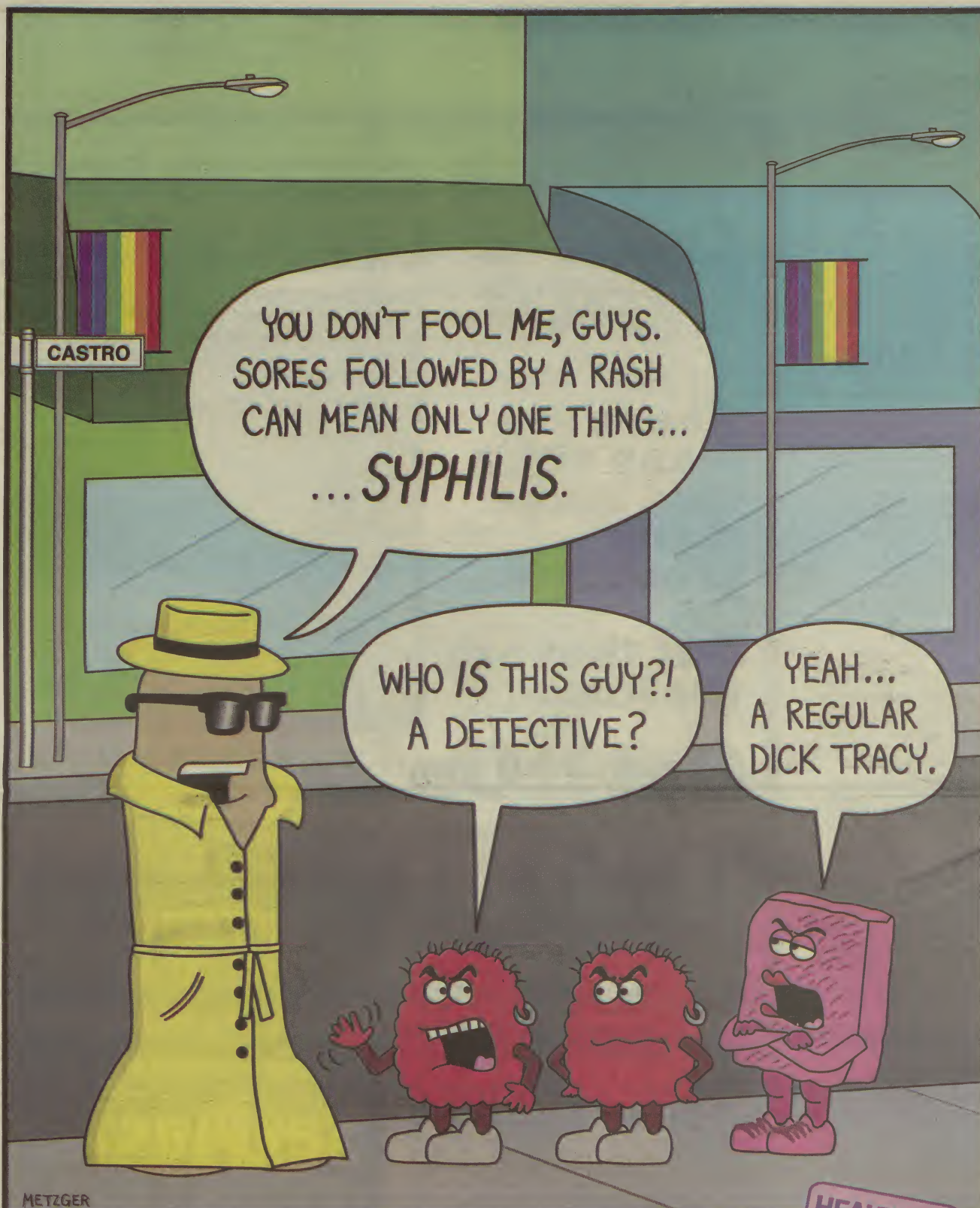
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10,000+ Local Horny Pigs
Cruising 4 "FAST SEX"



Syphilis is spread by "skin-to-skin" contact, through anal, vaginal AND oral sex. Many people don't notice the symptoms or know they have syphilis. The initial sore is painless. The good news is syphilis is easily cured.



GET TESTED FOR SYPHILIS

www.healthypenis2002.org 415.487.5580

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